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# Daily Report

# East Asia

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# Daily Report
## East Asia

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## Japan

### Three Firms Announce Import Promotion Plans

*OW2712153391 Tokyo KYODO in English 1207 GMT 27 Dec 91*

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 27 KYODO—Three major Japanese enterprises, Bridgestone Corp., Central Glass Co. and Suzuki Motor Co., on Friday announced import promotion plans in response to calls by the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) for help in easing trade frictions between Japan and other countries.

Bridgestone, a major auto tire company, said its plan calls for the import of natural rubber and other raw materials for automotive tires, as well as finished tires, to be increased by 8.8 percent from fiscal 1990 to about 74 billion yen in fiscal 1992, and by 13.2 percent to about 77 billion yen in fiscal 1993.

Central Glass revealed a plan involving closer cooperation with overseas enterprises in the procurement of raw materials, production equipment and new products, and in the introduction of technology of various types from abroad, company officials said.

The officials said an organization will be set up inside the company to promote the purchase of finished foreign products.

For its part, Suzuki Motor unveiled a plan to increase its fiscal 1994 imports by 30 percent from the fiscal 1990 level to 190 million dollars.

The Suzuki plan provides mainly for the promotion of sales in Japan of General Motors and Peugeot cars and an increase in the import of auto parts from overseas through a joint development of parts with foreign makers.

Suzuki also plans to have its own overseas factories boost their procurement of local parts by 80 percent from fiscal 1990 to 1.52 billion dollars in fiscal 1994, company officials said.

### Toyota Motor To Help GM Car Sales in Nation

*OW2812033591 Tokyo KYODO in English 0250 GMT 28 Dec 91*

[Text] Nagoya, Dec. 28 KYODO—Toyota Motor Corp. said Saturday it will help Yanase and Co., a major Japanese imported car dealer, expand sales of General Motors [GM] Corp.'s passenger cars in Japan.

The top Japanese automaker is planning to convey its intention to support GM car sales to the U.S. auto giant at a meeting of top auto executives from Japan and the United States scheduled for January 9, which coincides with a visit by U.S. President George Bush to Japan.

After winning GM's consent, Toyota will begin consultations with people concerned to work out details of the cooperative plan, officials said.

At this stage, Toyota is thinking of allowing Yanase use of its show rooms and event halls in Tokyo and other big cities to display U.S. cars and to give information on potential buyers of U.S. cars.

Toyota and GM already have broad arrangments, including joint ventures for production of passenger cars in the U.S. and Australia.

Earlier Shoichiro Toyoda, president of Toyota Motor, said the automaker is ready to market GM cars in Japan if requested.

Japan's imports of foreign cars in the January-November period came to 180,000 units, and those of U.S. Big Three—GM, Ford Motor, and Chrysler—accounted for only about 12,000 of the imports.

### Toshiba Firm Plans To Resume Exports to U.S.

*OW2812131691 Tokyo KYODO in English 0553 GMT 28 Dec 91*

[Text] New York, Dec. 28 KYODO—Toshiba Corp. plans to resume exports to the United States early next year as U.S. sanctions over illegal exports of sensitive equipment to the former Soviet Union expired Saturday, company officials said.

A three-year ban on government procurement from this giant Japanese electronics firm and its affiliates expires at midnight Saturday [28 December].

The punitive action followed disclosures that Toshiba's subsidiary Toshiba Machine Co. exported computer-operated milling machines to the Soviet Union between 1979 and 1981 in violation of the Coordinating Committee for Export Control, a Paris-based Western body to regulate trade with communist nations.

The U.S. Government imposed a ban on procurement of Toshiba products, claiming the machines sold by Toshiba enabled Moscow to produce quiet submarines, jeopardizing Western security.

According to a recent survey in the United States, very few American people refrain from purchasing Toshiba products because of the incident.

Toshiba officials said the company plans to start negotiations with U.S. customers on sales of its products, including medical equipment destined for military hospitals.

### KDD To Join U.S. Firm on TV Transmission

*OW3112091791 Tokyo KYODO in English 0822 GMT 31 Dec 91*

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 31 KYODO—KDD [Kokusai Denshin Denwa], Japan's international communications giant, announced Tuesday it will join its U.S. counterpart to exclusively lease one of Intelsat's satellite television channels starting April 1.

Currently, TV transmissions between Japan and the United States are sent through exclusive channels set up by individual major media outlets.

The only other option has been for clients to apply via KDD for use of a satellite channel owned by the International Telecommunications Satellite Organization (Intelsat).

But clients who booked channels through KDD occasionally found that satellite space was unavailable if all frequencies were being used.

The joint lease contract with Utah-based Keystone Communications will allow users to make transmissions whenever they like, KDD officials said.

It will also help KDD gain access to U.S. domestic channels through Keystone, they said.

### U.S. Stand on Jobs, Market Access Disputed

*OW0301095692 Tokyo KYODO in English 0945 GMT 3 Jan 92*

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 3 KYODO—Japan has "strong doubts" about an American assertion that the high U.S. jobless rate is tied to a low degree of access to the Japanese market, a senior Foreign Ministry official said Friday.

"It's too simplistic," the official said, dismissing the argument by U.S. Commerce Secretary Robert Mosbacher and some other American officials and industry leaders that Japan is partly responsible for the unemployment problem in the United States.

The official countered that the U.S. should make "much more effort" to put its economy in order by reducing budget deficits, rebuilding competitiveness, improving educational standards and dealing with other long-term structural issues.

The Foreign Ministry official spoke to reporters on condition of anonymity ahead of President George Bush's visit to Japan beginning Tuesday.

"We are ready to help" President Bush tackle the Japan-U.S. trade imbalance in automobiles and auto parts, he said, stressing bilateral relations between the world's two largest economies are "fundamentally solid and sound."

Asked about work on a so-called "Tokyo Declaration" and action program to be released January 9 after two days of talks between Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa and Bush, the official said they have been "more or less finalized" and only minor phrasing problems remain to be settled.

The Foreign Ministry official said he felt the U.S. is giving top priority to the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade talks, autos and auto parts and other sectoral issues such as computers and glass.

Asked if the joint statements might not be issued due to a possible lack of Japanese concessions on key issues, he said, "it is not probable."

"Our prime minister will reiterate his determination to make whatever positive contributions Japan can make," the official said, referring to the Uruguay Round whose completion has been delayed mainly because of a dispute over agricultural trade.

As for the action program, the official said, it will encompass regional, global and bilateral issues, ranging from China, the Korean peninsula, Cambodia, Burma and Latin America, to nuclear fusion, the space station program, refugees, Japan-U.S. security cooperation, host nation support, macroeconomic coordination, the Structural Impediments Initiative (SII) and auto trade.

The official said the two countries will agree to launch a joint commission on the aging of society and promote scientific collaboration during Bush's visit.

### Police Boosted in Central Tokyo for Bush Visit

*OW0301071192 Tokyo KYODO in English 0629 GMT 3 Jan 92*

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 3 KYODO—The Tokyo Metropolitan Police Department boosted police numbers in the capital Friday to about 26,000 in preparation for the visit to Japan by U.S. President George Bush from January 7 to 10.

The police reinforcements concentrated their efforts on searching manholes and stopping cars at roadblocks near key facilities such as the Akasaka State Guesthouse where Bush will stay and in moats around the Imperial Palace in the city center.

About 160 policemen were mobilized to search around the guesthouse.

Police are on alert against attacks by radical groups from the political far right and left.

### Corporate Association Urges Opening Rice Market

*OW0301084992 Tokyo KYODO in English 0805 GMT 3 Jan 92*

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 3 KYODO—A leading Japanese business organization said Friday the nation's rice market should be opened to imports and that businesses should devise their code of conduct to prevent further scandals.

The Japan Association of Corporate Executives (Keizai Doyukai) stressed in its new year message that Japan's continued development depends largely on its ability to act in concert with the rest of the world.

It said Japan must take the initiative this year and urged the government to come up with its own policies for dealing with international situations.

Doyukai urged the government to open up the rice market, saying Japan should contribute to the success of the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade talks by taking a bold step forward on the farm trade issue.

The government should also formulate a decisive policy aimed at modernizing the country's agricultural production and distribution systems, it said.

It further proposed that Japan contribute more to solving global problems such as environmental degradation.

Since solving such problems will require massive amounts of money, Japan should set aside funds made available in return for its "share of peace" following the end of the cold war, it said.

Japan should review its defense policy and sharply boost its foreign economic aid, including official development assistance (ODA), Doyukai said.

It said firms must promote social justice to prevent the recurrence of last year's brokerage and financial scandals by adopting their own code of conduct and establishing in-house systems for their responsibility to the society.

## LDP's Business Ties Major Obstacle for Allies

*OW0301013392 Tokyo KYODO in English 0113 GMT 03 Jan 92*

[By Mutsuo Fukushima]

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 3 KYODO—Japan's governing Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) needs to dam its torrent of "political donations" from big business if it is to rid itself of the taint of money politics and be reconciled with its trading allies, political pundits say.

Meiji University Prof. Kaoru Okano told KYODO NEWS SERVICE the cozy time-honored ties between big business and the LDP may keep Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa from assuming a more flexible stance in response to U.S. requests to trim its lopsided trade surplus.

"Although Miyazawa has recently urged the leaders of Keidanren (the Federation of Economic Organizations) to make maximum concessions to the United States on car trade, they are likely to be barred from being too conciliatory toward their biggest client nation by the wheeler-dealers of the LDP's Policy Affairs Research Council," Okano said.

"Keidanren leaders fear offending these LDP legislators, as the legislators have placed the 'Kyoninka-ken' (administrative authority to approve or ban business operations) under their control," he said.

Miyazawa told Keidanren leaders December 25, "we must do as much as we can" to prevent the aggravation of Japan-U.S. relations in the face of Washington's entreaties to expand sales of U.S.-made autos and auto parts to Japan.

His government is reportedly considering a substantial relaxation of a requirement that all U.S. car models meet detailed Japanese technical standards before U.S. carmakers are authorized to sell in Japan. Washington says the rule impedes U.S.-made car sales.

Sophia University Prof. Chin Eisho said, "as long as the ruling party receives political donations from the auto industry, it will continue to show intransigence on the U.S. call to alleviate the huge auto trade imbalance."

However, suggestions by Miyazawa and other pundits appear to have touched the strings of some Japanese business leaders.

Upset by bilateral trade antagonism and a spate of financial scandals that rocked Japan in 1991, Keidanren Chairman Gaishi Hiraiwa recently called for the Japanese business community to adopt a more consciously moral attitude to alleviate the excesses of its commercial activities.

Toyota Motor Corp. President Shoichiro Toyoda told a recent news conference, "we have been much obliged to the United States. So, we will curb our 1992 exports to the U.S. in view of the current (strained) situation."

These misgivings are shared by a number of the nation's senior economists and political scientists.

Chiba Economic University Prof. Takeo Takahashi, an economic policy adviser to the eight million-strong Japanese trade union confederation (Rengo), told KYODO, "the massive inflows of business community donations to LDP legislators have encouraged them to take pro-business policy measures regardless of consumers."

"Should the government instruct trading houses to pass foreign exchange gains from a stronger yen on to consumers, it would help assuage trade friction by making foreign exporters more competitive and giving Japanese consumers access to cheaper imports," he said.

"Business leaders fear antagonizing the LDP, as they worry about a possible legislative backlash, such as an increase in corporate income tax or a land-holding tax rate," he said.

Drawing attention to U.S. Trade Representative Carla Hills' call to shift Japanese policy emphasis from producers to consumers, he said, "unless Japan makes much of the interests of consumers, it will not be able to harmonize its relations with the international community."

Okano said the growing intraparty challenge to Miyazawa's authority from senior LDP politicians, such as former secretary general Ichiro Ozawa, has undercut the premier's mandate in making any conciliatory decisions entailing painful domestic adjustments even in the face of a planned visit by U.S. President Bush on January 7.

Okano said, however, the collusive relationship between the LDP and business can be ended, if voters were prepared to criticize corrupt politicians through the ballot box in this summer's house of councillors' election instead of just accepting their pork barrel constituency projects.

"Politicians will be forced to correct their money-politics practices only when voters opt to oust from the political stage the politicians involved in such scandals as the Recruit stocks-for-favors scam," he said.

Takahashi concurred. "Although it may take a long time, Japanese voters will eventually reach political maturity and vote on the basis of the moral integrity of the candidates, rather than pork-barrel offers or gifts distributed in constituencies," he said.

### Tokyo To Cooperate on ROK Fisheries Center

*OW3012090491 Tokyo KYODO in English 0816 GMT 30 Dec 91*

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 30 KYODO—Japan is prepared to offer financial and technological assistance for a fisheries resources management center to be built in South Korea, government sources reported Monday.

The sources said the center, to be established on Cheju Island in southern Korea at a cost of 4 to 5 billion yen, will be equipped with facilities for artificial hatching and biotechnology research to preserve declining fish stocks in the Sea of Japan, the Yellow Sea, and the East China Sea.

The South Korean Government plans to invite Russia, China, and North Korea to participate in what it hopes will be a large-scale international fisheries research center, they said.

Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa is expected to convey Japan's willingness to cooperate in the project during his visit to Seoul beginning January 16, the sources said.

They said Japan hopes that its involvement will help break the impasse in negotiations on revising the existing fisheries accord.

South Korea has been cool toward Japan's proposal to tighten controls on fishing operations by South Korean boats in waters off Japan, the sources said.

### Iran Retaliates for Tokyo Deportation Procedures

*OW2712094891 Tokyo KYODO in English 0859 GMT 27 Dec 91*

[Text] Tehran, Dec. 27 KYODO—Iranian immigration authorities have tightened entry procedures for Japanese since late this month, saying they were responding to Japan's deportations of Iranians.

The Iranian authorities have begun refusing entry to nontourists and have delayed entry for several groups who eventually were admitted, abandoning a previous practice of allowing those on brief business trips to enter without visas.

A bilateral treaty allows Japanese and Iranian tourists to enter each other's country without visas.

Japan has recently sent back numbers of Iranians, saying they had entered at Narita Airport as tourists but stayed on to work illegally. Iranian authorities said their recent tightened entry procedures were meant to counter those deportations.

Officials from Iran's immigration bureau ordered 30 Japanese to stay in the Tehran Airport lobby for two hours December 17 before entry inspections, without giving any reasons.

When some of the group complained that other passengers were being processed, officials confiscated passports from three of them and cash from two. The items were returned a few days later after protests from the Japanese Embassy.

On December 20, four Japanese businessmen were ordered to stay in a hotel for [word indistinct] hours, out of contact with the outside, before being admitted entry to Iran.

The next day three Japanese researchers were refused entry and sent to Dubai.

Articles criticizing Japan for certifying Iranians as illegal workers at the airport and sending them back to Iran have recently appeared in Iranian newspapers.

Japanese immigration officials said they refused entry to more than 20,000 foreigners at Narita this year, double the number turned back in 1990.

The officials said Iranians topped the list of those denied entry, but refused to give country-by-country figures.

### Trade With PRC To Reach '$22 Billion' in 1991

*OW2912042191 Tokyo KYODO in English 0330 GMT 29 Dec 91*

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 29 KYODO—Merchandise trade between Japan and China is expected to grow nearly 22 percent from last year to around 22 billion dollars this year, the NIHON KEIZAI SHIMBUN reported Sunday.

In a dispatch from Beijing, the economic daily said the steady growth stems largely from the lifting of economic sanctions against China, imposed after the military crackdown on pro-democracy demonstrators in Beijing's Tiananmen Square in June 1989.

[Kang] The relations between the United States and Japan, which were divided into the victor and the defeated after World War II, are now seeing an occasion for Japan to make great economic strides, while the U.S. economy is declining. Their awareness of the other's situation has changed into a sense of rivalry. What is your opinion of this?

[Watanabe] Firm U.S.-Japanese ties are inevitable for peace and prosperity in the Asian-Pacific region. The two nations have close economic reciprocity and are supported by a strong mutual security system. Therefore, basically, I am very optimistic about the future of the relations between the two countries.

The U.S.-Japanese cooperative relations are being developed in the form of a so-called global partnership. It is regrettable that public opinion in the United States and Japan does not fully appreciate this, and the U.S. tendency to criticize Japan and Japan's tendency to be repulsive to the United States are regrettable. Still, however, it should be noted that 80 to 90 percent of the people in both countries stress the importance of U.S.-Japanese relations.

[Kang] What is the progress of your negotiation with the Soviet Union over the return of the northern territories? Are the prospects for it bright or gloomy, now that the Soviet Union has been dismantled?

[Watanabe] Although the Soviet situation is still unstable, the leadership of the Russian Republic, after the failed August coup, expressed its intention to resolve the northern territories issue soon from the position of "law and justice." Our present view is that the situation is turning somewhat favorably.

[Kang] Let us return to the ROK-Japan issue again. The ROK's trade deficit with Japan is expected to reach $8 billion this year and $10 billion next year. The ROK is of the opinion that if Japan continues to have a negative policy on this issue, a solution will hardly be possible.

[Watanabe] We ought to look into the structural cause of the increasing trade imbalance. First, ROK enterprises import unfinished goods and production facilities from Japan and produce export goods with them. Second, the rapid increase in the wages of the ROK workers deteriorated the international competitiveness of ROK goods. Therefore, it is difficult to solve the present trade imbalance overnight. It is important for us to make joint efforts to induce this imbalance into a balanced state through the expansion of trade.

Japan has no objection at all to the ROK efforts to improve the situation through the domestic campaign to reduce consumption and to increase savings.

[Kang] What will be the subjects of discussion during Prime Minister Miyazawa's upcoming visit?

[Watanabe] The ROK is our friendly country of particular importance. The first objective of his visit is to visit as soon as possible and build up an intimate personal relationship with President No Tae-u. The two leaders will discuss North-South relations, North Korea's nuclear development, and the talks for the normalization of relations between Japan and North Korea.

[Kang] What will your advice, as an economic expert who has served as finance minister and trade and industry minister, be to the ROK on its economy?

[Watanabe] You have increased wages extraordinarily. (He makes a gesture indicating a rapid increase). High wages seem to be the present trend.

### Finance Minister on Tax Hikes for Aid Funding

*OW2812090291 Tokyo KYODO in English 0827 GMT 28 Dec 91*

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 28 KYODO—Finance Minister Tsutomu Hata said Saturday tax hikes to raise funds for Japan's international contribution would be inevitable.

Hata made the prediction after the government approved the 1992 fiscal budget at an extraordinary cabinet session Saturday.

Hata said Japan has to do as much as it can to contribute to the world community, because Japan is indebted to other nations for their cooperation resulting in the nation's current economic prosperity.

He said the 72,218 billion yen budget was compiled on the basis of a 2.8 trillion yen revenue shortfall in the current fiscal 1991 budget, which resulted from an economic slowdown.

He thanked other ministries for their cooperation in the budget compilation, especially over the Finance Ministry's decision to slash defense outlays and tax revenue allocation to local governments.

### Opposition Pledges Contribution to World Peace

*OW3112113691 Tokyo KYODO in English 1112 GMT 31 Dec 91*

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 1 KYODO—Leaders of Japan's major opposition parties on Tuesday vowed fresh efforts to contribute to peace and stability in the world in the coming year.

In a New Year's message, Makoto Tanabe, chairman of the Social Democratic Party (SDP), said his party will take new steps to enhance relations with Asian nations in 1992, calling it "the first year of an Asia-oriented diplomacy."

"We are full of spirit," Tanabe said, adding that he hopes the SDP's shadow cabinet will prepare the No.1 opposition party for a change in government leadership.

Koshiro Ishida, chairman of the No. 2 opposition party Komeito, said in a separate message that peoples in the world are looking for ways to create a framework within which to live together.

"Japan should make a great contribution to peace and stability in the world in the interest of all mankind, not pursuing only its own benefit," Ishida said.

Japanese Communist Party presidium chairman Tetsuzo Fuwa pledged to keep up party efforts toward a peaceful and progressive world. He also said the Japanese Communist Party aims to get rid of the Japan-U.S. Security Treaty and reestablish Japan as a "nonnuclear" and "nonaligned" state.

Democratic Socialist Party (DSP) chairman Keigo Ouchi said that political leadership is required to comply with the current turbulent international situation. "We are committed to build Japan into a nation that is trusted by the world."

## New Year Interviews With Politicians Reported

### Komeito Chairman Interviewed

*OW0201055792*

[Editorial Report] Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese at 0000 GMT on 2 January carries a 30-minute recorded interview with Koshiro Ishida, chairman of the opposition Komeito [the Clean Government Party], by NHK commentator Sugure Nakashima and NHK newscaster Miyuki Morita at the NHK studios. The network does not give the date of the interview.

The interview begins after exchanging New Year greetings. When asked to comment on the changing international situation, Ishida welcomes the end of the cold war and "stresses the need to further promote disarmament, centering on a reduction of conventional weapons" in addition to cutbacks in nuclear weapons. Ishida, while predicting the international situation will continue undergoing upheavals this year, also says that "the stagnation of the economy and the issue of nuclear arms control in the now-defunct Soviet Union, as well as moves by the East European nations remain unpredictable—this will affect greatly the world situation." Referring to the upcoming visit by President Bush to Japan, Ishida points out that "economic frictions between Japan and the United States remain serious" and stresses the "need for the two nations to build new relations." In the interview, Ishida also says that the United Nations should play a key role in averting regional conflicts and settling global issues, and stresses the need for Japan to make contributions to that end.

Asked by Morita to comment on the Miyazawa government, Ishida says that "the government has shown the attitude of backing away from issues when they have surfaced, and we are very discontented with this attitude." Calling the draft budget unworkable, Ishida says that "the government will gradually lose the people's confidence" unless it implements workable policies.

On the PKO bill, which was not adopted at the latest extraordinary Diet session, and is set for continued deliberations at the Diet, Ishida points to the people's insufficient understanding of the bill and says that "I intend to pass the bill in this year's ordinary Diet session through debates." Ishida goes on to say that "his party supports the bill itself, but opposes railroading the bill," conceding that his party is responsible for failing to block the bill's passage. Asked how he intends to pass the bill in the future, Ishida says that "the government needs to make vigorous efforts to pass the bill," adding that at the the political parties summit talks he stressed the need to gain the people's full understanding of the bill. Ishida also says that further serious discussion is needed between the ruling Liberal Democratic Party [LDP], the Komeito, and the Democratic Social Party [DSP] to pass the bill at the Diet. Asked about allegations that the coalition among the LDP, the Komeito and the DSP has broken down, Ishida denies the existence of such a coalition, but stresses that "my party's stance is to work together with other political parties for good policies, but to oppose any bad policies," citing his party's objection to the creation of an international peace cooperation corps proposed by the former Kaifu government.

Asked about the Komeito's attitude toward the Diet's taking testimony from a witness on Prime Minister Miyazawa's involvement in the Recruit financial scandal, Ishida says his party believes that answers by Prime Minister Miyazawa at last year's extraordinary Diet session were very insufficient and adds that "his party has no choice but to seek continuously the settlement of the question in the next ordinary Diet session." In the interview, Ishida denies allegations that the LDP and the Komeito have collusively agreed to shelve the question.

Discussing political reform, Ishida stresses the need to put political reform back on track, and the need for legislation to root out political corruption, adding that he hopes that "Mr. Miyazawa will display his strong leadership to push for political reform."

Asked to comment on the rice issue, Ishida says: "The rice issue is intractable. I think that tariffication will bring difficulties to Japan's rice farming community. Our party has proposed the partial opening of the rice market in place of tariffication, without exception. At a meeting with the Japanese in mid-October of last year, Mr. Dunkel said that if Japan negotiates the farm talks with a proposal for partially opening its rice market, it would be able to gain the understanding of Japan's proposal from European nations and to negotiate more smoothly. Therefore, we think that our proposal has proven to be correct. As for what actions our party should take in connection with this issue, our party has yet to come to a firm conclusion. Our party held a meeting on 26 December last year to discuss the issue, but many party members attending the meeting voiced their objection to tariffication. At the meeting, some party members voiced the position that our party should discuss the question of how to energize Japan's agriculture. It has been said that the government is not prepared to show a decisive attitude toward the Dunkel paper by

13 January. I think that our party will deal with this issue, while watching the government's response to the Dunkel paper."

Asked about the Komeito's campaign strategy for the upper house elections, Ishida says that his party plans to field more candidates than ever.

### DSPJ Chairman Tanabe Interviewed

*OW0201063192*

[Editorial Report] Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese at 2330 GMT on 1 January begins broadcasting a series of 30-minute "New Year Interviews With Opposition Leaders" conducted by NHK commentator Sugure Nakajima and announcer Miyuki Morita. Video shows Makoto Tanabe, chairman of the Social Democratic Party of Japan [SDPJ], seated in an NHK studio facing Nakajima and Morita.

After exchanging new year greetings, Mr. Tanabe is first asked about his aspirations for the new year. Quoting a line inscribed on a Dutch monument, "One who lives in the present must build for the future," Tanabe explains his own interpretation of the line as "the politicians of the present age must pursue good politics for the sake of the next generation," and stresses his intention to lead the SPDJ "to make a big leap forward this year with the emphasis on the upper house election."

In response to a question on how he feels about the drastic changes in the world situation last year, Tanabe says that the lesson that can be learned from these changes lies in the proverb that "great attention must be paid to safeguarding the democratic society," and that "efforts should be made to check if parliamentary politics is being thoroughly pursued in the peaceful Japan."

With regard to the appraisal of the new Miyazawa administration, Tanabe says that "despite his expectations for the start of a full-fledged conservative administration in post-war years," he is very much disappointed with the fact that Miyazawa seems to have lost his original political ideals during the factional power struggle and bargaining in the Liberal Democratic Party [LDP] in selecting its party president, as well as in carrying on recent Diet deliberations.

When asked about the SDPJ's basic approach toward the bills for cooperation in the UN Peacekeeping Operation (PKO), Chairman Tanabe criticizes the government for attempting to have the bills adopted on the premise of "sending the Self-Defense Forces overseas in one way or another" as a means for international contributions. Then, pointing out his plan to visit China, Thailand and Cambodia from 10 January, Tanabe stresses his intention to find out what is really wanted in Asia, and reiterates his views on the "need for thoroughly reviewing what Japan is truly expected to do in order to contribute to the international community."

Concerning the SDPJ's approach toward the Recruit scandal, in which Prime Minister Miyazawa and others are involved, Tanabe states that, due to the significance of the issue, the SPDJ intends to demand a full investigation into the case. As for political reforms, Tanabe stresses the need for legislation to prevent corruption in connection with political funds, and states his intention to bring up the issue on correcting the imbalance in lower house seating at the upcoming regular Diet session.

In replying to the question on how the SDPJ plans to deal with the issue of rice import liberalization, Tanabe first says: "With regard to the rice issue, I have very obstinately insisted that the system of self-sufficiency in rice supply must be safeguarded."

Then Chairman Tanabe adds: "The rice problem should not be taken as an issue that involves profit, or for which some immediate actions must be taken. It should be taken as an issue that concerns such questions as to how Japan's agricultural industry can supply foodstuffs in a stable way in the future, and how this beautiful land can be safeguarded. All sunny land with water sources in Japan has been turned into rice paddies. That is the reason why Japan, which is known as Mizuho, or Land of the Golden Ears of Rice, should at least be allowed to maintain its self-sufficiency in rice supplies. This is our people's aspiration. And I feel that even if sacrifices can be made in other fields, we must securely safeguard the system of self-sufficiency in rice supply."

Meanwhile, Tanabe also points out the need to make positive efforts to enhance productivity through the scientific method and promote "not only joint operation but also joint management" of agriculture. He also notes that "Japan should not try to insist on its stance of self-sufficiency in rice supplies just because the United States has its own waiver items and Japan has its theory of food security."

Touching on the upcoming upper house elections this year, Tanabe states his determination to beat the ruling LDP so as to pave the way for the SDPJ to obtain administrative power, and stresses the need to establish cooperative relations with other opposition parties to defeat the LDP in the elections. While stressing continuing cooperation with the Rengo, the Private Sector Trade Union Confederation, Tanabe also states his intention to rally Social Democratic forces, including the Democratic Social Party and the Social Democratic Federation, and also to promote cooperation with the Komeito.

While admitting difficulty in forming a coalition with Komeito, Tanabe stresses that the current situation is certainly not unfavorable to forming such a coalition. And he also points out the possibility of regrouping political parties through cooperation with liberal forces, not necessarily with factions of the LDP, that share the same progressive ideas of safeguarding the Constitution, promoting political reform, and pursuing peace and disarmament so as to form two major political forces to enable a power change.

In answering the possibility of forming an SDPJ administration, Chairman Tanabe notes progress made in the operation of its Shadow Cabinet and pledges that his party will make visible changes this year to attain its objective of obtaining administrative power.

### JCP Chairman Fuwa Interviewed

*OW0301054792*

[Editorial Report] Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese at 2330 GMT on 2 January carries a 24-minute recorded interview with Testuzo Fuwa, chairman of the Presidium of the Japan Communist Party, by NHK commentator Masaru Nakajima and NHK announcer Miyuki Morita at the NHK studios. The date and time of the interview are not given.

Asked to comment on last year's international situation, Fuwa says that when the CPSU decided to dissolve itself, his party issued a "statement welcoming its decision as the disintegration of a party pursuing hegemonism" and stresses that "his party had fought against its hegemonism for the past 30 years," adding that the JCP thinks that an impedance progress has disappeared. Fuwa also points to growing problems in capitalist nations and denies the notion that capitalism has won over socialism. Fuwa, while criticizing the way the dead Soviet Union and East European nations pursued socialism in the past, says that the JCP does not at all think that with the failure of socialism in the Soviet Union and the East European nations, "the ideology and movement objectives of socialism have failed or evaporated," adding that his party aims to make new advances.

Commenting on the Miyazawa government, Fuwa says: "At first, we had various expectations concerning the government. Looking at the achievements of his government over the past two months, we find his government no different from earlier governments. For example, he appointed as many as ten legislators who were implicated in the Recruit financial scandal, to be members of his cabinet."

Discussing the PKO bill, Fuwa says that "the bill aims to send Self-Defense Force [SDF] members abroad, and their overseas dispatch runs counter to the spirit of the Constitution." Taking into account its failure to pass the bill, Fuwa urges the government to scrap plans to send SDF members abroad. Referring to the Japan-U.S. Security Treaty which was amended 32 years ago, Fuwa says: "A program has been made public to keep Japan as a frontline base for U.S. Forces, and to conduct Japan-U.S. military operations with the secret aim of letting SDF members participate in overseas wars." Fuwa stresses: "As the budget shows, the Miyazawa government is consolidating military bases and the SDF, and is planning to pave the way for SDF members to be sent abroad through legislation in the PKO bill, despite the end of the cold war. His government still intends to implement the cold-war strategy formulated 32 years ago. The government is being asked to give up all these things." Fuwa stresses that Japan should make international contributions in nonmilitary areas, in line with pacifist constitutional principles. Fuwa also stresses that "the old framework of politics by the ruling Liberal Democratic Party [LDP] has thought only of security, the military and requests from the United States—this old framework for politics is asking to be broken."

On political reform, Fuwa stresses the need to address the fixed number of members in the House of Representatives, which has been ruled unconstitutional by the Supreme Court and which rules out the introduction of the single-seat constituency system sought by the LDP. Fuwa also stresses the need to take measures to prohibit political donations from firms and business organizations, pointing to his party's stubborn insistence that the Miyazawa Cabinet's involvement in the Recruit financial scandal be clarified through a thorough probe at the Diet. Fuwa also says that "his party will seek testimony from an unsworn witness on Mr. Miyazawa's involvement in the scandal at the Diet," pointing to Mr. Miyazawa's past vacillating explanations on his involvement in the scandal.

Concerning the rice issue, Fuwa says: "How to deal with the rice issue is a matter that relates to Japan's sovereignty. Japan is the world's biggest food importer. Japan's self-sufficiency in food in terms of calories is 47 percent, according to data released in November, and this figure of less than 50 percent has continued for the past four years. Japan should uphold the stance that it can no longer be pressed by foreign nations to import staple foods. Our party is asking the government that it should carry through on the position that it can make no concessions to imports of rice to the end. I am concerned over what sort of attitude the government will finally take. Answering questions at the Diet, Mr. Miyazawa has said that the government intends to settle the issue through mutual cooperation. Cooperation means concessions."

Asked about campaign strategy in the upper house elections, Fuwa says that "his party aims for a great leap forward in the elections."

### DSP Chairman Ouchi Interviewed

*OW0301064392*

[Editorial Report] Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese at 2354 GMT on 2 January begins broadcasting a 24-minute New Year interview with Democratic Socialist Party [DSP] Chairman Keigo Ouchi, conducted by NHK commentator Sugure Nakajima and announcer Miyuki Morita. Video shows Keigo Ouchi seated in an NHK studio facing Nakajima and Morita.

After exchanging New Year greetings, Chairman Ouchi is first asked about his aspirations for the new year. In reply, Ouchi quoted a line by Dr. Sun Yat-sen, father of the Republic of China [ROC], "A nation is built on the basis of the popular will and is destroyed by running against the popular will." Thus, he stresses his intent to pursue Japanese politics by respecting the foundations of democracy and by listening to the people's voice.

In response to a question on how he feels about drastic global changes last year and the current world situation, Ouchi says:

"The confrontation between the Soviet Union and United States has come to an end, and a super-state named the Soviet Union has been destroyed. Now, it is necessary for the world to build a new international order, and Japan must become a nation ready to make positive contributions to or to provide cooperation in this cause. Therefore, there should not, first of all, be any awkwardness in Japan-U.S. relations, because Japan-U.S. relations are now becoming more and more important.

"Moreover, Japan must cooperate in efforts to heighten functions of ensuring collective security with the United Nations playing the leading role. And the fact that the PKO-related bill was not enacted at the Diet session last year indicates Japan's failure in fulfilling its responsibility."

Chairman Ouchi also points out Japan's responsibility in providing cooperation in supporting efforts to create economic and political stability in the former Soviet Union; in making every possible effort to prevent North Korea from arming itself with nuclear weapons; and in carrying on its talks with North Korea based on this approach.

While stressing that "great care must be taken for the Japan-U.S. Security treaty," Chairman Ouchi points out that "the time has now come for Japan to take the initiative in forming a consultative body on Asian-Pacific security, a forum where the Soviet Union and China can also join in talks on security in the Asia-Pacific region." Then, calling on Japan to "play its role in promoting disarmament," Ouchi says that the DSP made the proposal for cutting Japan's defense spending based on the changing world situation last year.

With regard to the appraisal of the Miyazawa administration, Ouchi points out its failure in enacting the PKO-related bill, in working out concrete plans for turning Japan into a great place to live, and in taking sufficient measures to deal with business conditions.

When asked why the DSP has insisted on demanding Diet approval for dispatching Self-Defense Force [SDF] overseas to join in UN PKO activities, Ouchi stresses the importance of civilian control and reiterates that even such an action for peaceful purposes must have the people's approval first. And while admitting failure in taking concerted action on the PKO bill with the Liberal Democratic Party [LDP] and Komeito, Ouchi states his belief that intra-party cooperation must be promoted with the emphasis on policies. Moreover, Ouchi stresses his intention to insist on the Diet's prior approval for overseas SDF dispatch if the PKO bill should be brought up again for deliberations at the next regular Diet session.

As for the issue on political reform, Ouchi points out that all efforts to reform the electoral system, revise the regulations on political funds, or prevent political corruption should be based on the enforcement of political ethics, while stressing need to make every possible effort to correct the imbalance in lower house seating.

In his reply to the question on how the DSP will handle the rice issue, Ouchi says: "Since Japan is an international nation, it should attach great importance to international cooperation or coordination. In this sense, Japan should do its utmost to make the Uruguay Round end in a successful conclusion. However, the point at issue is that it is wrong to maintain that in giving priority to international coordination, it does not matter what becomes of Japanese industry, or even if Japanese agriculture should break down." Noting that the United States and European nations are doing their best to protect their own industries and that they are opposed to tariffication without exception, Ouchi stresses that in trying to make the Uruguay Round a success, Japan should clearly state its own position and never agree to international cooperation at the expense of its own agricultural industry.

As to how the DSP will deal with the upcoming upper house election, Ouchi predicts a serious defeat for the LDP and says that the opposition will be forced to form a coalition so as to safeguard national interests. With regard to the possible regrouping of political parties, Ouchi calls on other opposition parties for cooperation in the election through mutual concession on various issues so as to pursue politics to replace the ruling LDP.

As for rallying social democratic forces as proposed by the Social Democratic Party of Japan [SDPJ], Ouchi stresses that such unity cannot be formed without SDPJ's separation of its leftist forces and its adoption of realistic line in handling international politics.

## Splinter Party Leaders Interviewed

*OW0301122792*

[Editorial Report] Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese at 0017 GMT on 3 January begins carrying the last two in a series of New Year interviews with opposition leaders—an eight-minute interview with Satsuki Eda, representative of the Social Democratic Federation [SDF], and a nine-minute interview with Yasumatsu Hoshikawa, representative of Rengo Sangiin [floor group in the House of Councilors represented by the Private Sector Trade Union Confederation (Rengo). The interviews, pre-recorded at an undisclosed date, are conducted by NHK commentator Masaru Nakajima and announcer Miyuki Morita in an NHK studio in Tokyo. Video shows Eda seated in the studio facing Nakajima and Morita across a coffee table.

Eda, after exchanging New Year greetings with the interviewers, shows his caligraphic work, which reads "Earth; Citizens," and explains his aspirations for the new year. He says "the people of the world have at last overcome the horror of nuclear war and become able to build a wonderful earth filled with dreams" and stresses that it is "the citizens of the world" who are to build that earth.

Asked to comment on how he views the convulsive changes which took place in the world last year, Eda says: "Following the termination of the cold war, I think that the so-called confrontation between capitalism and socialism has come to an end. Capitalism ended, and so did socialism at the same time." He adds that the international community today is to address the environmental, human rights, and international economic issues under the social democratic system and stresses that Japan has "an important role" to play in those efforts.

Discussing how his party will deal with the Peacekeeping Operations [PKO] Cooperation Bill, which is to be carried over to the next Diet session, Eda notes Japan will become a UN Security Council member this year and thus should "actively participate in PKO activities carried out by the UN." However, he emphasized that this should not lead to the overseas dispatch of Self-Defense Forces and reveals his desire to "have Japan start participating in PKO this year under a national consensus that does not involve those forces."

Eda previews upcoming upper house elections and predicts that a reorganization of Japan's political world will be inevitable after the elections. He says: "The cold war is over, but the Japanese political parties are still built under a cold war structure."

Asked to comment on a call by Makoto Tanabe, chairman of the number one opposition Social Democratic Party of Japan [SDPJ], for integrating socialist and democratic socialist forces, Eda says he supports the call and says, "Since Chairman Tanabe is a full-fledged chairman, I pin great hopes on him and will cooperate with him."

The interview with Eda ends at 0025 GMT, followed by an interview with Hoshikawa.

The Rengo Sangiin representative first exchanges new year greetings with the interviewers and shows his caligraphic work, which reads, "Politics Through Dialogue at the Forum of Good Sense." He explains that he aspires for "politics rooted in the common people's common sense," instead of politics dictated by "the Nagata-cho logic" and alienated from the common people.

Asked to explain what his floor group has done in the Diet since making a "great jump" in the upper house elections three years ago, Hoshikawa says: "We have carried out activities in the parliament with a view to creating a new political force capable of replacing the Liberal Democratic Party and taking power."

Questioned if his floor group will play a role in pooling together the socialist and democratic socialist forces as advocated by SDPJ Chairman Tanabe, Hoshikawa says that, since members of his group were elected with the backing of various parties, his group will become a prime mover in pooling various parties togther.

Hoshikawa says Rengo Sangiin plans to put up "approximately 20 candidates" in the forthcoming upper house elections. He adds that his group calls on other floor groups in the upper house to carry out political activities transcending partisan and factional interests and has received favorable responses from the SDPJ and DSP. He calls for reorganizing the electoral system for the upper house so that candidates who are not shackled by partisan interests can be elected to make the upper house "a forum of good sense."

## Miyazawa Joins New Year Celebrations at Palace

*OW0101044292 Tokyo KYODO in English 0345 GMT 01 Jan 92*

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 1 KYODO—Emperor Akihito and Empress Michiko on Wednesday morning held a New Year celebration at the Imperial Palace, joined by other members of the imperial family, Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa, all cabinet ministers, and other dignitaries.

A total of 700 dignitaries were greeted by the imperial couple, separated into four groups, officials of the Imperial Household Agency said.

Among the dignitaries attending were, besides Miyazawa and cabinet members, House of Representatives Speaker Yoshio Sakurauchi, House of Councellors President Yuji Osada, Supreme Court Chief Justice Ryohachi Kusaba, and prefectural governors.

Emperor Akihito told guests at the New Year function, "I pray for the progress of the nation and the happiness of the people at the beginning of the year," the officials said.

In the afternoon at the palace, the emperor will receive diplomatic corps members dressed in the national clothing of their individual countries.

New Year observances are traditionally considered the most important and the most elaborate of Japan's annual events.

At dawn, the emperor performed a ritual known as "shihohai," or worship of the four quarters, during which he showed reverence in various directions where shrines and imperial tombs are located, and offered prayers for the well-being of the nation.

## Bank Association Chief Views Discount Rate Cut

*OW3012072691 Tokyo KYODO in English 0636 GMT 30 Dec 91*

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 30 KYODO—Japan's bank association chief Monday said the cut in the official discount rate by the Bank of Japan (BOJ) early Monday would have positive psychological effects on corporate managers.

Kenichi Suematsu, chairman of the Federation of Bankers Associations of Japan, said in a written comment that the cut reflects the central bank's strong "political" intention to stop the current slowdown in the pace of economic growth.

The latest cut was apparently intended to encourage corporate capital investment, not to follow a falling trend in market interest rates, he said.

It was "an effective measure" to stop the economy sagging, Suematsu said.

### Fuji, Sumitomo Issue Short-Term Prime Rate Cut

*OW3112081491 Tokyo KYODO in English 0708 GMT 31 Dec 91*

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 31 KYODO—Fuji Bank and Sumitomo Bank said Tuesday the two major commercial banks will lower the short-term prime lending rate by half a pecentage point to 6.125 percent per annum.

The rate cuts by Fuji and Sumitomo take effect January 8 and January 6, respectively.

The cut by Fuji is its first reduction of the rate charged on loans of less than one year to its most creditworthy customers since a 0.375 point cut November 22.

Other commercial banks are expected to follow suit early next year.

The latest cut is in response to lower fund-raising costs due to falling money market rates after the Bank of Japan cut the discount rate by 0.5 point to 4.5 percent per annum on Monday, Fuji Bank officials said.

The rate on newly issued three-month certificates of deposit (CDs), the benchmark for the short-term prime rate, plunged from the 6.2 percent level early in November to the 5.6 percent level on Monday.

The short-term prime rate reduction is expected to help restore corporate confidence in capital spending, thus underpinning the flagging economy, financial sources said.

The variable long-term prime lending rate which moves in tandem with changes in the short-term prime will fall by the same margin.

The new rate on loans of between more than one year and three years will be 6.425 percent, and that on loans of more than three years 6.625 percent.

The variable long-term prime rate on loans of between one year and three years will drop below the fixed long-term prime rate charged by long-term credit banks for the first time, because the fixed long-term prime rate will sag to 6.6 percent, effective January 6.

Meanwhile, the governmental Japan Development Bank said it will lower the base lending rate by 0.3 percentage point to 6.6 percent per annum, effective January 6.

### Unexplained Corporate Spending Totals Reported

*OW3012112491 Tokyo KYODO in English 1058 GMT 30 Dec 91*

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 30 KYODO—Large Japanese business firms refused to account for 47.6 billion yen worth of expenditures from July 1989 to June 1990, according to a Tax Administration Agency report released Monday.

The agency conducted a tax survey on 4,983 large corporations capitalized at 100 million yen or more and found that 585, or 11.7 percent, could not explain precisely where some of their money went.

The figure was down 8.7 billion yen from the previous year.

The agency was later able to determine the exact purposes for only 10.6 billion yen, or 22.3 percent of the total 47.6 billion yen, the report said.

The murky bookkeeping meant the agency was unable to account for an average of 81.36 million yen per company, the second worst tally in history, it said.

The report showed that of the 47.6 billion yen, 36.2 billion yen, or 76 percent, in expenses were reported by the companies without explanation. Companies told the agency that more explicit reporting of the taxable expenditures would cause trouble for the recipients.

The agency said they found that another 11.4 billion yen was hidden by cooking the books or through outright deception.

Among the 10.6 billion yen of which the agency was able to find the purporses, "entertainment expenses" amounted to 5.7 billion yen, it said.

Rebates to clients and commissions totaled 2.8 billion yen, while "secret" donations to politicians reached 1.3 billion yen, it added.

Another 800 million yen are believed to have gone into the pockets of company executives and "stockholders" who threatened to disrupt company business.

Construction firms headed the list with 30.5 billion yen in vague outlays, followed by real estate, financial and services at 7.5 billion yen, the report said.

Manufacturing companies were at a loss to explain 6.3 billion yen worth of spending, wholesale businesses 3.1 billion yen and retail enterprises 200 million yen, it said.

## Toyota Resists Request for Financial Statement

*OW3112074091 Tokyo KYODO in English 0646 GMT 31 Dec 91*

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 31 KYODO—Toyota Motor Corp. is the only firm that has not met a Ministry of Finance [MOF] request to submit a revised financial statement for having received kickbacks from brokerage or investment advisory companies, government sources said.

A Toyota spokesman said the automaker is still considering whether or not to hand in the document.

His comments suggested the firm is unwilling to readily comply with the MOF request.

Last August, soon after news of scandal in the securities industry broke out, the ministry asked 107 firms which had each received over 100 million yen in kickbacks, to turn in revised financial statements.

The ministry instructed the firms to acknowledge in writing their acceptance of the brokerage compensation within the revised financial statements.

The MOF made its request through the Japanese Institute of Certified Public Accountants.

Firms asked to submit the revised documents began handing them in last October, the sources said.

The ministry has received documents from 106 of the 107 firms, they said.

Daiwa International Capital Management Co. has admitted it paid out some 2.19 billion yen in compensation to Toyota.

A senior Toyota official maintains that Daiwa's actions were done on its own and that the automaker is not aware of having received any reimbursements.

Toyota is willing to revise its financial statement if it can include a statement indicating that Daiwa's actions were conducted on its own, the Toyota official said.

But an official at the MOF Securities Bureau said that if Toyota does not clearly indicate the money it received was indeed a reimbursement, just as other firms have, the ministry will not accept the revised financial statement.

## Bankruptcy Debts Said To Hit Record in 1991

*OW2712091391 Tokyo KYODO in English 0853 GMT 27 Dec 91*

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 27 KYODO—Debts arising from bankruptcies in Japan hit a record this year due to a rush of big insolvencies attributed to the burst of the "bubble economy," or asset inflation caused by easier credit and booming stock prices, a private research agency said Friday.

Teikoku Data Bank Ltd. said the number of companies going bankrupt totaled some 15,000, topping the 10,000 mark for the first time in three years and leaving debts of some 7.7 trillion yen.

The amount of debts exceeded the previous record of 4.18 trillion yen in 1985, representing a 3.9-fold jump from the previous year, the agency said in a report covering bankruptcies with debts of 10 million yen or more.

The agency cited the bulk of the bankrupt firms as falling victim to losses suffered after excessive investments in stock and real estate during the bubble economy era of soaring land and stock prices.

Big insolvencies, or those with debts of 100 billion yen, numbered 14, but none of them left debts surpassing the record 520 billion yen left by Sanko Steamship Co. in 1985.

The largest of this year's bankruptcies was Egawa, a restaurant run by Nui Onoue, a key figure in the banking scandal involving several financial institutions.

Egawa went under in August with debts of 410 billion yen, becoming Japan's second-largest insolvency in terms of outstanding debts.

Among other major bankruptcies was Maruko Inc., the major real estate company and the nation's top condominium leasing concern that went bankrupt in August with debts of 285.8 billion yen, making it the first public concern to fold up in five years.

An official at Teikoku Data Bank said there are still many companies that appear ready to go under and suggested that 1992 could be another year of record bankruptcies.

## Upper House's Shinsaka Dies of Heart Failure

*OW2812032391 Tokyo KYODO in English 0242 GMT 28 Dec 91*

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 28 KYODO—Kazuo Shinsaka, a member of the House of Councillors from the Rengo upper house group, died Saturday of heart failure at a hospital in Tokyo, a family member said. He was 52 years old.

Journalist-turned politician Shinsaka was elected to the Diet from the Nara Electoral District in western Japan in the 1989 upper house election.

He had been working at Japan Broadcasting Corp. (NHK) as a reporter on the foreign news desk and a foreign correspondent.

The Rengo upper house group is a politiacl arm of the eight million-strong Japan Trade Union Confederation (Rengo).

With Shinsaka's death, the ruling Liberal Democratic Party holds 115 seats in the 252-member upper house, The Fisheries Agency said Iceland's departure may lead to the collapse of the IWC and formation of a new group to regulate whaling operations in the Antarctic Ocean.

## Mongolia

### Prime Minister Calls for Economic Self-Reliance

*OW3112141591 Beijing XINHUA in English 1353 GMT 31 Dec 91*

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, December 31 (XINHUA)—Mongolians should bring into full play their own strength in overcoming the current economic difficulty, Prime Minister Dashiyn Byambasuren has said.

In a recent radio broadcast, whose transcript was available today, Byambasuren said the country's top priority in 1992 was to stabilize its economy by capitalizing on the country's own resources and improve the exterior environment.

He said Mongolians should not wait for outside help, but rather should rely on themselves by fully tapping their own potential.

Byambasuren stressed that Mongolia should depart from its past of dependence upon one single country, and proceed to develop equal and mutually beneficial ties with the republics of the former USSR.

Mongolia recognized all the 11 republics of the Commonwealth of Independent States last Tuesday. It had recognized Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia earlier.

Byambasuren said Mongolia would liberalize prices in the whole economic arena in 1992 and speed up the pace of privatization and the transition to a complete market economy.

Since the "privatization" of small firms, mostly of the service trade, began in June, some 500 companies have been auctioned off out of a planned 2,670, the "ARDIYN ERH" newspaper reported.

The country will sell off 530 large, industrial companies as part of the "Big Privatization" program.

Commenting on the recent demise of the former Soviet Union, the prime minister said this development will unavoidably affect the economy of his country.

He said only 70 percent of the petroleum and diesel oil contracts with the former Soviet Union were fulfilled in 1991.

In December, merely eight percent of the gasoline contracts and 25 percent of the diesel oil contracts were fulfilled, causing severe damage to the Mongolian economy.

The premier added that Mongolia's gross national product (GNP) dropped some 20 percent this year from the 1990 level.

On the political front, the premier said, Mongolians passed the year 1991 without major political crisis.

However, he admitted, excessive politicalization has caused instability and weakened social unity.

Mongolia is experiencing the worst economic difficulty in decades. It registered a minus economic growth in the first half of 1991 with the national revenue down by 35.1 percent compared with that of the same period in the preceding year, the Ulaanbaatar-based "PEOPLE'S RIGHTS" newspaper reported.

### Minister Details Ongoing Foreign Policy Reform

*OW2812181191 Beijing XINHUA in English 1556 GMT 28 Dec 91*

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, December 28 (XINHUA)—Mongolia is ready to open wider to the outside world to seek both political and economic cooperation overseas.

The ongoing foreign policy reform focuses first on liberation from ideological consideration, and then on the formulation of a diversification policy, said Mongolian Minister of External Relations Tserenpiliin Gombosuren.

His statements, published in today's PEOPLE'S RIGHT, were made on the occasion of the 70th anniversary of the establishment of Mongolia's Foreign Affairs Office.

The diversification policy, he noted, puts Mongolia's interests in the first place and aims to develop relations with its two neighbors—China and Russia, and with other Asian countries, developed countries of the West, developing countries and international organizations.

He added there are three guidelines for Mongolia's contacts with Asian countries—developing bilateral relationships, cooperating with international organizations in this region, and helping to settle regional issues for common interests.

Another stress in Mongolia's foreign policy is on economic cooperation with other countries, seeking new trade partners and opening new markets for Mongolian products, he said.

Up to now, Mongolia has concluded investment agreements with the United States, Britain, Germany, France, South Korea and China.

Referring to China, he said the stable situation there provides the prerequsite for smooth implementation of the agreements between the two countries.

He also said that the exchange of visits between Chinese President Yang Shangkun and his Mongolian Counterpart Punsalmaagiyn Ochirbat had given great impetus in this regard.

### Daily Reports Livestock Population Decreases

*OW2812180991 Beijing XINHUA in English 1557 GMT 28 Dec 91*

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, December 28 (XINHUA)—The livestock population of Mongolia has decreased by 1.3 million head this year due to increased consumption, the paper "PEOPLE'S RIGHT" reported today.

A year-end survey put the cattle population at 24.56 million, which include 10.8 million dams.

The paper said the reduction has resulted from a remarkable increase in domestic consumption, which stood at 7.6 million head yearly during the period of 1986-1990 but rose to 9.9 million this year.

The same survey showed that private-owned livestock has reached 13.4 million, accounting for 54.4 percent of the country's total and representing a 60 percent increase over last year. The number of public sector livestock has decreased 36 percent from the last year level. This is mainly due to the privatization process under way in the country this year.

## North Korea

### SKNDF Denounces President Bush's ROK Visit

*SK0301062292 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0527 GMT 3 Jan 92*

[Text] Pyongyang January 3 (KCNA)—The Central Committee of the South Korean National Democratic Front [SKNDF] (Hanminjon) made public an open letter to the South Korean people on December 31 in denunciation of the planned visit to South Korea by U.S. President Bush, according to radio Voice of National Salvation in Seoul.

Pointing out that Bush's scheduled visit to South Korea is aimed at bridging over the crisis of the colonial rule in South Korea, consolidating the U.S. rule over there and intensifying its plunder, keeping hold on the land of South Korea as an aggressive military base for an indefinite period and thus finding a new way of igniting a war against the North, the letter says:

Bush is coming to South Korea to save No Tae-u's "military government" and keep and consolidate the only colony in Asia. This can never be tolerated, because this totally contradicts the desire of the people to terminate the domination by outside forces and the "military government" and build a new independent and democratic society for a worthy life.

Bush's planned visit to South Korea is a predatory trip intended to make the South Korean economy more dependent and exploit the South Korean people more harshly and a dangerous war tour aimed at creating fundamental conditions for a war against the North.

If his visit is allowed, it will lay new grave difficulties in the way of independence, democracy and reunification, the letter warns, and calls upon all the people who want to live in a reunified country to rise in the struggle against Bush's South Korean visit.

The struggle against Bush's visit to South Korea must be developed into a struggle for the withdrawal of the U.S. forces in combination with the anti-war, anti-nuke peace movement, be put into a concrete form of struggle against the U.S. imperialists' robber-like pressure for market opening and be linked to a struggle to cut off the hands of the United States backing the "Sixth Republic" dictatorship, urges the letter.

Stressing that the struggle against Bush's South Korean visit cannot be separated from the the struggle to overthrow the pro-American military dictatorship, the letter declares:

Our Hanminjon will wage a nationwide anti-U.S., anti-fascist struggle for national salvation to put an end to the aggressive and predatory colonial policy of the U.S. imperialists and promote independence, democracy and reunification.

### Editorial Hails Kim Il-song's New Year Address

*SK0301053392 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0000 GMT 2 Jan 92*

[NODONG SINMUN 2 January editorial: "Let Us Vigorously Accelerate the Grand Socialist March by Upholding the Great Leader Comrade Kim Il-song's New Year Address"]

[Text] The year, 1992, which will be a most significant year in the history of our nation and a glorious new year, has dawned.

By cherishing a firm determination to defend the banner of the chuche idea—the banner of socialism—in any storm and with great revolutionary pride, we greeted the new year.

Greeting the new year, the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song gave a historic New Year address to all people.

In the New Year address, the respected leader Comrade Kim Il-song summed up great victories and achievements attained by our party and people last year in the revolution and construction by overcoming all difficulties. He expounded militant tasks for more vigorously accelerating our revolutionary cause in the new year.

The respected leader Comrade Kim Il-song's New Year address is a programmatic guideline for effecting a new upsurge in socialist construction while coping with the violent trend of the time with the initiative. It is a great program for national reunification which opened a bright prospect in the future of the pannational struggle for national reunification.

The brilliant and militant program for the new year gave great confidence and courage to all party members and people. It is vigorously encouraging and inspiring them to new struggles and feats.

Today the entire nation is filled with great joy and emotion for having elected dear Comrade Kim Chong-il supreme commander of the Korean People's Army [KPA] at the 19th Plenum of the Sixth Workers Party of Korea [WPK] Central Committee which was held some time ago.

By deeply cherishing such great joy and national honor in their hearts, our people firmly resolved to thoroughly implement the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song's New Year address.

The last year, 1991, was a proud year during which our party and our people attained the most brilliant victory under most difficult circumstances.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song has taught: The year 1991 was the year of arduous trials, the year of rewarding struggle, and the year of glorious victory.

Throughout the period from its pioneering stage to the present, our revolution advanced along the road of arduous struggle. Although our party and people have gone through numerous vicious challenges by the enemies of the revolution during these days, we overcame them with a firm chuche position and strong revolutionary principles, and, thus, won great victory.

The last year remains brilliant as a particularly significant year in the history of the heroic struggle of our revolution. Last year the imperialists' maneuvers to eradicate the socialist cause—the people's just cause—were intensified more than ever before, and we were faced with truly gigantic tasks.

However, the challenge of the enemy who attempted to block the advance of the revolution failed to break the revolutionary faith and will of our people to defend the socialist cause to the end by deeply trusting in their party.

Indeed, last year was the year of victory during which the vitality of socialism of our own style, which advanced under the banner of the great chuche idea, was fully demonstrated, and was the year of struggle during which our people's indomitable spirit, which would not surrender even if it could be broken, was vigorously displayed.

As is elucidated in the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song's New Year address, last year our party members and workers registered great achievements in the capital construction and in the construction struggle to increase productivity in major domains of national economy by cherishing endless loyalty to the party and to the revolution.

We consolidated the results of irrigation projects, and brilliantly accomplished the nature-remaking work for increasing the fertility of cultivated lands. Thus, we brought about excellent fruition in agricultural production.

Brilliant successes were also attained in the domain of building socialist culture.

Distinguished victories and achievements made by our people last year in socialist construction are a clear demonstration of the superiority of popular mass-centered socialism of our own style which embodied the chuche idea. They serve as a firm foundation for effecting a greater advance and upsurge in the revolution and construction in the 1990's.

All victories and achievements we have attained are indeed proud and endlessly precious because our people won them with our own strength by courageously overcoming all sorts of difficulties even amid acute confrontation with enemies.

What makes us take a great pride in the course of struggle last year is that the unity and cohesion among the leader, the party and the masses were more firmly consolidated as indomitable ones.

Our great unity and cohesion, in which the party firmly trusts in the people while the people endlessly believe in the party, and the party and people share their destinies to the end, are the basic source for us to firmly defend and advance the chuche socialist cause by overcoming various trials of history.

As long as there are such indomitable unity and cohesion, our Korea will tenaciously stand as a powerful stronghold of socialism, and will remain permanently brilliant as a lighthouse of hope for the people who are advancing the road toward independence.

Last year, 1991, was the year during which our people more firmly cherished the precious truth and faith that when we highly uphold the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and the leadership of the glorious party, we will be ever-victorious without fail.

The leadership of the party and the leader is the life line of our socialist cause. If the skillful and refined strategic and tactical leadership of the party and the leader was not guaranteed, no one can think of the fact that our people defended the revolutionary cause whenever we underwent difficult conditions and firmly inherited the life of the revolutionary cause, and no one can talk about the sound of the hurrah of continued victory in socialist construction.

Our party made a keen analysis and judgment of the prevailing situation and put forward the correct strategy and tactics for the struggle in a timely manner, thus leading the revolution and construction to a constant upsurge. This is an important character of the leadership of our party.

Last year our party firmly maintained the independent revolutionary line by standing in a firm chuche position, and put forward the policy, strategy, and tactics to resolutely smash the enemy's antirevolutionary offensive with a revolutionary offensive. Thus, our party wisely led our socialist cause so that it can victoriously advance without even a minor deviations and vicissitudes.

Immortal works, including the work, "*Let Us Achieve the Great Unity of Our People*," made public last year by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, and the work of dear Comrade Kim Chong-il, "*Popular Mass-centered Socialism of Our Own Style Is Ever-Victorious and Indomitable*," served as a great banner of struggle and advance which opened a bright prospect in the future of our people's struggle for socialist construction and national reunification.

As it upholds at its head a great leader who, with his uncommon resourcefulness and scientific insight, is leading the revolution and construction along a straightforward road, never once has the revolution made a mistake in its lines or gone through difficulties, nor will it in the future.

The revolutionary leadership of the party and leader, who always stay in the midst of the popular masses, rely on them completely, and organize and mobilize them, was a major factor that enabled socialist construction to create changes last year that stunned the world.

Finding in the popular masses the key to fulfilling the enormous task of carrying out socialist construction, the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, who established his lofty view of the popular masses in the beginning of his revolutionary journey and created the most brilliant model of a popular leader in his long revolutionary activities, has vigorously summoned them to the rewarding struggle of great construction during the last year.

Thanks to the energetic leadership of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song who never stopped giving on-the-spot guidance to every corner of the country, including South Hamgyong Province, with his surging revolutionary passion and vigor, the same, immutable passion and vigor he demonstrated in the days of the arduous anti-Japanese struggle and in the initial period of his founding the country, the spirit of heroic struggle and advancement has always filled the country.

Under the revolutionary slogan "We serve the people," our party, which is brilliantly embodying the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il-song's visions, has encouraged all party organizations and functionaries, and the functionaries at the state economic institutions to go among the masses and work with them, sharing weal and woe with them.

Thanks to the leadership of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il, who, after setting in motion his long-term plan to solve the question of keeping the people fed, clothed, and housed most brilliantly, has provided wise leadership for vigorously accelerating the struggle for great construction, including the building of Tongil Street, socialism of our own style centered on the people was able to demonstrate its superiority even higher last year.

The firm principle of defending the basic interest of the working class and working popular masses and the lofty socialist ideals is the basic stand that runs through our party's leadership over the revolution and construction.

Even today when unexpected, complicated developments occurred one after another in the international arena and when the imperialists are intensifying their antisocialist maneuvers on a previously unknown scale, our revolution is making giant strides without even the slightest hitch thanks to the stubborn struggle waged by our party which firmly maintains the socialist principle and its tested leadership.

Last year's course of struggle has clearly demonstrated that not even the imperialist enemies can stop the forward movement of our party and people who are engaged in a struggle to defend the revolutionary banner with their unwavering chuche-oriented stand and thoroughly revolutionary principle.

At the thought of the proud successes they attained last year in all areas of the revolutionary struggle and construction, our people are now renewing the valuable truth that they can be ever-victorious if only they cherish the unwavering faith that none are so great as or better than our party and leader and nothing can come close to our socialism or take the road indicated by our party.

Today, we face an honorable task to accelerate the revolution and construction in the meaningful new year even more vigorously with our pride of being the victors and great hope for the future.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song has taught: We should turn this meaningful year into a year of victory, the most shining year in our national annals, by marking a new upswing in socialist construction in which the entire party, the whole country, and all the people are mobilized.

The new year, 1992, is a meaningful year that occupies a most conspicuous place in the history of the glorious struggle being carried out by people who are tirelessly advancing, upholding the respected and beloved Comrade Kim Il-song as the sun of the nation and as a great leader.

Nothing is a greater source of pride and more rewarding to our people who are advancing along the road leading only to victory and glory under the guidance of the great leader [suryong] and the great leader [yongdoja] than to turn this meaningful year into a year of most shining victory in realizing the chuche cause.

Our party Central Committee hopes that all of the party members and working people vigorously accelerate the all-party, all-people's march designed to glorify 1992, the glorious year, with a high degree of political zeal and labor successes, upholding the great leader's New Year address.

Reflected in this is the lofty will to glorify the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il-song's glorious revolutionary history and accomplishments for thousands of years to come and consummate the chuche revolutionary cause.

All of the party organizations and working people, cherishing the party's plan for marking a new upsurge in socialist construction by mobilizing the entire party, the whole country, and all the people, should keep the flames of the great socialist march burning fiercely, with new determination and passionate loyalty.

As was explained by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song in his New Year address, our general direction in socialist construction at present is to establish the chuche principle more firmly in fields—political, economic, and cultural—so that we may cope with the rapidly changing situation on our own initiative by vigorously launching the three revolutions—ideological, technical, cultural.

This general direction is the most correct guideline that enables us to keep socialism of our own style advancing victoriously in conformity with the inevitability of socialist construction and the actual requirements and demands of the prevailing situation.

With the great leader clearly explaining the general direction that must be adhered in socialist construction, our party and people, with their hearts filled with faith, are now able to reliably open the door to the victorious future, with their eyes set on clear goals, under any circumstances.

This year we should firmly adhere to the independent line in politics, make our revolutionary ranks more invincible politically and ideologically, strengthen the economic might of the nation, and see to it that the healthy and revolutionary socialist culture fills society by thoroughly embodying the chuche idea in all areas in conformity with the dictates of the general direction in socialist construction.

The most important and urgent task we face in this year's socialist construction is to increase power generation and coal production and to develop rail transportation.

The sectors concerned, clearly remembering the party's intention to concentrate efforts on power generation, coal production, and transportation, should effect a new upsurge in these sectors so as to satisfactorily meet the rapidly increasing demands for power, coal, and transportation.

Warmly pulsing in the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song's New Year address are his long-term plan for realizing our people's long-cherished desire that all the people may equally eat rice and meat soup regularly, wear silk robes, and live happily in houses with a tiled roofs, as well as his unlimited consideration for the people.

In order to realize the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il-song's lofty plan as such, it is imperative to increase production of a variety of consumer goods of high quality, including cloth, by thoroughly implementing the party's policy on the light industrial revolution and see to it that agricultural production grows decisively this year in conformity with the party's decision to define this year as the year of putting greater efforts into agriculture.

This year we should keep waging a vigorous struggle to fulfill the 3-year plan for scientific and technological development and the struggle to implement the educational thesis and develop all areas of the socialist cultural construction rapidly.

In his New Year address, the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song explained that to strengthen the driving force behind the revolution and to enhance its role is the key to giving full play to the superiority of socialism and to vigorously accelerating socialist construction and then he put particular emphasis on the need to enhance the party's leadership role.

Party members and working people, with a deep understanding that the secret of victories of all descriptions lies, from start to finish, in strengthening the driving force behind the revolution, in strengthening its backbone, the party, and in upholding the party's leadership, should display high the mettle of uniting rock-firm around the party and leader and of implementing the party's chuche-oriented lines and policies without conditions.

The source of the party's invincibility and its might lies in its blood relations with the masses. Party organizations at all levels should thoroughly implement the revolutionary mass lines to strengthen the unity and cohesion between the party and the masses in all directions.

Party, state, and economic leading functionaries should go deep among the masses in conformity with the requirements of the Chongsanri spirit and method, the Taean work system, to fulfill their mission as the faithful public servants, thereby vigorously guiding the working people to still greater feats.

To struggle and advance in unity in one mind, firmly trusting only their own party and leader, is the proud disposition of our people who have overcome a great many difficulties and tribulations together with the party.

All of the party members and working people should display highly the honor of victors in socialist construction by producing breakthroughs in their march onward on the strength of the might stemming from unity in the revolutionary spirit of self-reliance and arduous struggle.

Last year was a year during which great headway has been made in realizing the cause of national reunification.

Last year, after putting forward a most rational and realistic proposal for national reunification brimming over with the spirit of national independence and patriotism, the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, the sun of the nation, energetically led the fellow countrymen from all walks of life at home and abroad to the realization of the cause of national reunification, embracing them in his boundlessly broad bosom, regardless of their political and religions views and their pasts.

That anyone who loves his people, while looking up to the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il-song as the lodestar of national reunification, pines to contribute to reunification not through anticommunism but through alliance with communism, has become during the last year a trend of national history more difficult to stop from flowing.

The adoption of the historic North-South agreement, which will serve as a new milestone for peace and peaceful reunification, toward the end of last year powerfully confirms the sagacious nature of the leadership provided by the party and leader who, after putting forward the independent national reunification lines and peace program, have been maintaining them consistently.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song has taught: The North and the South should hasten national reunification by sincerely implementing the North-South agreement on the basis of the three principles for national reunification in a way that corresponds to the desire of the entire population and the expectation of the people of the world.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song's teachings in his New Year address and at the 19th plenary session of the sixth party Central Committee on the need to implement the North-South agreement on the basis of the three principles for national reunification—independence, peaceful reunification, and great national unity—with a view toward hastening reunification before the nineties are out are the most correct guidelines that enable us to push ahead with the cause of national reunification.

This is a program for promoting national reunification that can be put forward only by the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il-song, the great sun of the nation, who, arming himself with a chuche-oriented view of the nation that the entire population should defend and realize national independence in firm unity, has devoted himself to rendering the fatherland prosperous and to national reunification.

We should regard the independent stand put forth by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song in his New Year address as the basic stand to adhere to in realizing the cause of national reunification and then settle all the problems arising in independent national reunification, on the strength of the nation's independent force.

In particular, we should actively support and encourage the patriotic people struggling for reunification rejecting intervention by outside forces, under the slogan of anti-U.S. struggle for independence.

The question that must be resolved before anything else in realizing national reunification is to pave the way for a peaceful reunification. The North and the South should make every effort possible to realize disarmament, ease tensions, and turn the Korean peninsula into a nuclear-free, peace zone.

In the course of implementing the North-South agreement, countries having interest in the Korean peninsula should respect the spirit of the North-South agreement. Particularly, they should stop doing such arrogant acts as putting pressure on us with the issue of nuclear inspection.

We have stated on several occasions that we have neither the intention or the ability to develop nuclear weapons and that we are willing to agree to nuclear inspections guaranteed with fairness.

As has been stressed by the great leader, it is inconceivable that we refrain from doing what we should do because of the others' pressure or that we are forced to do what we must not do for the same reason.

If anyone rashly tries to force his unjust demands on our people, it will invite a retaliation as a matter of course and he will take full responsibility before history for the unexpected consequences arising therefrom.

It is none other than the entire population in Korea that form the driving force behind national reunification. The compatriots from all walks of life in the North and the South and abroad should firmly unite with each other on the basis of their patriotism and the spirit of national independence, placing common national interest ahead of everything else.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song's patriotic slogan stated in his speech after his historic, triumphant homecoming, that "Make contributions to the cause of national reunification, those who have strength by giving strength, those who have knowledge by devoting knowledge, and those who have money by donating money, according to their respective capabilities and conditions," has now become the banner of great national unity that enables the entire population to bring down the wall of division and open the door to reunification in firm unity.

In his New Year address, the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song has elucidated the most correct struggle program designed to make new headway in realizing the people's cause of independence based on a profound analysis of the socialist cause's invincibility and the inevitable course of historic development.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song has announced that we should not pessimistically view the process of change in the present situation, but should see it optimistically and advance more vigorously along the road leading to independence, cherishing firm faith in socialism. This becomes an important guideline in making the people gain an insight into the essence of the situation and in having them firmly advance along the single road of socialism without even a little concern.

However cruel the imperialists' remarks on the end of socialism may be, a great many people in the world, with each passing day, will come to know even more clearly that their sophism must be foolish in ignoring the inevitability of historic development.

Now, the imperialists are running mad to realize their dream of domination over the world after wiping out socialism, thus completely reviving the colonial system. However, this is just an anachronistic daydream.

The people who are running counter to the trends of history will face only death and chaos. Therefore, these are their fates.

The world's people who love justice and truth and who abide by the independence and principle, under the banner of the anti- imperialists' struggle for independence, should unite to surely build a free, peaceful new society after smashing the imperialists' colonial policy.

The will of our party and our people is very firm to strengthen unity and solidarity with socialist countries; to advance and struggle shoulder to shoulder with the people of those socialist countries; to further strengthen the friendship and cooperation with the nonaligned countries; and to intensify and develop the Nonaligned Movement and the peace movement in conformity with the aspirations of the world' people who want to build a new world through independence.

In his New Year address the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song has brilliantly elucidated the future road of our party and our people. Because of this, the prospect of the independent cause of our revolution, our nation, and our people is very bright.

Under the banner of the great chuche idea, we should firmly protect the people's independent cause and try to vigorously support it. This is a noble mission which our people have undertaken in their times and history.

Only when we are endlessly loyal to the great party and the leader's leadership can we brilliantly fulfill such a noble mission.

Our party is an experienced party which has a wide experience and seasoned leadership gained on the long and arduous road of the revolution. In addition, this is the revolutionary party overflowing with an indomitable spirit and zeal.

We don't know any party greater than the Workers Party of Korea that has a strong combat capability and principle and that has been absolutely supported and trusted by the popular masses and that has been leading the socialist cause to the single, ever-victorious road, thus cherishing a conviction in the future.

Under the banner of chuche idea, there is the great party that leads our people to a single glorious road. Because of this, it is certain that we will win a victory in this year's combat.

All party members and the working people, further cherishing deep in their heart the great pride and dignity of carrying out the revolution with the great leader as their head, should uphold the leadership of the party and the leader with their loyalty.

With the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song as the central leader of the unity and leadership, we should entrust our fate to him and, on the road of the 1990s' march, try to brilliantly inherit and develop the tradition of the proud loyalty of the Korean communist movement, which has won a victory after bravely undergoing all kinds of trials and difficulties.

This becomes the true road in vigorously displaying the honor and dignity of the chuche Korea, which steadily advances under the banner of independence and socialism.

It is an indomitable will of our party and our people to make the significant year of 1992 a year of the most brilliant victory and feats and a year of the most revolutionary upsurge in our history of revolutionary struggle, which, under the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song's leadership, has been making a long push taking advantage of victory.

All people should firmly unite around the party Central Committee with the respected and beloved Comrade Kim Il-song its head and vigorously accelerate the new year's march, thus further upholding the banner of the chuche idea and socialism.

## Kim Il-song Sends Chongnyon Chairman Greetings

*SK0301012992 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 2100 GMT 31 Dec 92*

[New Year "congratulatory message" from DPRK President Kim Il-song to Han Tok-su, chairman of the Central Executive Committee of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan—read by announcer]

[Text] Tokyo, Japan

Comrade Han Tok-su, chairman of the Central Executive Committee of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan [Chongnyon]:

Today, we are celebrating 1992's New Year under the lifted banner of the chuche idea with great pride as a victor who is successfully cultivating the socialist road.

In marking the hopeful new year, I extend warm congratulations to the comrade chairman and all the other Chongnyon officials and Korean residents in Japan.

The year 1991 was a honorable and victorious year during which great progress was made in widely demonstrating the superiority and vitality of the popular masses-centered socialism of our own style and strengthening and developing the movement of Korean residents in Japan.

Last year, despite difficult conditions in which the situation in their vicinity was very complicated, the Chongnyon officials and Korean residents in Japan positively defended the socialist fatherland and vigorously carried out the movement for the fatherland's reunification and all other patriotic work. In this way, they demonstrated the might of Chongnyon as a prestigious organization of Overseas Koreans boundlessly loyal to the Republic at home and abroad.

Chongnyon more firmly established a chuche-oriented ideological system in its organizations and carried out guidance and assistance programs for its lower organizations. In this way, it established itself as a mighty patriotic organization.

Under the banner of great national unity, Chongnyon greatly contributed to strengthening the work of national unity among the compatriots from all walks of life, hastening the fatherland's independent, peaceful reunification, and promoting friendly ties with the Japanese people.

I am pleased that the Chongnyon officials and Korean compatriots, with great loyalty to the socialist fatherland, brought excellent achievements in Chongnyon's patriotic work; and I highly assess it.

Today, the people of the fatherland began the first march of the new year with high revolutionary fervor and confidence with which to make new progress in socialist construction and struggle to reunify the fatherland. In step with the people of the fatherland who have soaring spirits, all the Chongnyon officials and Korean residents in Japan must further strengthen the Chongnyon organizations and more brilliantly carry out their patriotic work.

In hearty response to the policy of modeling its ranks on the chuche idea, Chongnyon must further strengthen the work of implementing this policy and give priority to having the officials have a revolutionary belief. One will cherish a revolutionary belief deep in one's heart when one firmly believes in the justness of the chuche socialist cause and its victory. Chongnyon must vigorously carry out ideological indoctrination work to help its officials correctly understand the fundamental superiority of the socialism of our own style to ensure that they have a firm belief in the socialist fatherland and carry out work and live in a revolutionary manner.

Chongnyon must equip itself with excellent officials loyal to the socialist fatherland who will share their life with our party and help its local chapters significantly strengthen their work. In this way, it must educate and win over more young businessmen and industrialists, young people, and all the other compatriots from all other walks of life.

The reality in which all the compatriots at home and abroad more ardently yearn for the fatherland's reunification and in which new prospects have opened for peace in the country and her peaceful reunification calls on Chongnyon to more positively wage a struggle to hasten the fatherland's independent, peaceful reunification.

In step with the new situation, Chongnyon must wage a struggle to implement the just peace proposal of the government of the Republic and the proposal to establish the Democratic Confederal Republic of Koryo and must positively support the South Korean people's righteous struggle for independence, peace, and the fatherland's reunification. Chongnyon must further strengthen friendship and unity with the Japanese people and steadfastly conduct the movement for solidarity with the world's progressive people.

I believe that all the Chongnyon officials and compatriots, with new confidence and optimism, will march vigorously to make this meaningful year the most glorious, victorious year in developing the movement of Korean residents in Japan. I wish all the Chongnyon officials and 700,000 Korean residents in Japan happiness.

[Signed] DPRK Kim Il-song
[Dated] 1 January 1992, Pyongyang

## Chongnyon Chief Greets Kim Il-song on New Year

*SK0201102192 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0959 GMT 2 Jan 92*

["Greetings to Marshal Kim Il-song From Chairman Han Tok-su of Chongnyon Central Standing Committee"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang January 2 (KCNA)—The great leader Marshal Kim Il-song received a message of greetings from Han Tok-su, chairman of the Central Standing Committee of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongnyon), on the new year, 1992.

Noting that the people in the homeland last year fully demonstrated the invincible might and superiority of our socialism by effecting a revolutionary upswing on all fronts of socialist construction along the road of victory under the guidance of the great leader even in face of the heinous anti-socialist, anti-DPRK moves of the imperialists, Chairman Han Tok-su said that the great leader more firmly united the compatriots in the North, South and overseas as the driving force for reunification under the banner of great national unity and led them to reach an agreement on reconciliation, nonaggression, cooperation and exchange between the North and the South, thus giving the fellow countrymen great joy and firm conviction of the prospect of reunification.

He stressed that the great leader wisely led Chongnyon to register new successes in its patriotic work without the slightest vacillation and showed all the paternal loving care and solicitude for it.

He stressed the determination to strive to strengthen great national unity of the compatriots at home and abroad, actively support and encourage the South Korean people in their struggle for independence, democracy and reunification and struggle for the realisation of the agreement on reconciliation, nonaggression, cooperation and exchange adopted between the North and the South and thus contribute to achieving the reunification through a confederacy in the 90s at any cost.

He laid emphasis on vigorously conducting external activities for an early normalisation of DPRK-Japan diplomatic relations, further strengthening international solidarity with the Japanese people and other progressive people of the world and thus increasing the number of supporters to and symphasizers with the cause of national reunification.

He sincerely wished marshal Kim Il-song a long life in good health.

### Kim Il-song Sends Aid to Koreans in Japan

*SK2912092291 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0826 GMT 29 Dec 91*

[Text] Pyongyang December 29 (KCNA)—The great leader President Kim Il-song sent the 119th instalment of educational aid fund and stipends amounting to 127 million yen to Koreans in Japan for the Democratic National Education of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongnyon), greeting the New Year 1992.

This brings the total amount of educational aid fund and stipends sent by President Kim Il-song for the children of Koreans in Japan to 41,090,942,433 yen.

The deep solicitute shown this time again will greatly encourage the Koreans in Japan in their devoted patriotic work for the prosperity of the socialist homeland, the independent and peaceful reunification of the country and strengthening and development of the movement of Koreans in Japan, and will be conducive to the development of Democratic National Education.

### Workers Party Greets Guinean Party Leader

*SK0101070592 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0644 GMT 1 Jan 92*

[Text] Pyongyang January 1 (KCNA)—The Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea sent a message of greetings December 30 to Joao Bernardo Vieira on his election as president of the African Party for Independence of Guinea-Bissau and Cape Verde.

We believe that the friendly and cooperative relations between the two parties and two peoples will consolidate and develop and wish you and your party greater success in the work for the strengthening and development of the party and the prosperity of the country, the message said.

### More Rallies for Kim Chong-il's KPA Election

*SK0101233592*

[Editorial Report] Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean at 1100 GMT on 30 December carries a 10-minute report on mass rallies Chagang and Kangwon Provinces to congratulate Kim Chong-il on his election as supreme commander of the Korean People's Army [KPA]. The report describes a four minute-long recorded speech by Yi Pong-kil, responsible secretary of the Changang provincial party Committee and chairman of the Chagang Provincial People's Committee, and gives a brief gist of speeches by Kang Myong-san, secretary of the Chagang provincial party Committee, and other functionaries at Chagang Province's mass rally. The report quotes Yi Pong-kil as saying that "the election of the dear comrade leader, the outstanding leader [yongdoja] of our party and people, at the plenary session of the party Central Committee as the supreme commander of the KPA is a manifestation of the unanimous desire and firm will of our party and people to uphold the sagacious comrade leader as the head of the people's armed forces and to consummate to the chuche revolutionary cause to the end. It is an expression of the absolute confidence and boundless loyalty of all party members, people, and soldiers of the People's Army toward comrade leader."

The report describes in Kangwon Province's mass rally the gist of speeches by (Sin Hung-kyu), responsible secretary of Wonsan City party Committee and chairman of the Wonsan City People's Committee, (Yi Yun-to), vice chairman of the Administrative and Economic Guidance Committee of Kangwon Province, and other functionaries.

Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean at 2100 GMT on 30 December carries a three-minute report on mass rallies and meetings held to congratulate Kim Chong-il on his election as the supreme commander of the KPA held in various areas of the country. The report cites the brief gist of speeches by Yang Tae-yong, secretary of North Hamgyong provincial party Committee, and other local functionaries at a mass rally in North Hamgyong Province. The report also cites the gist of speeches by Yi Kil-song, responsible secretary of Yanggang provincial party Committee and chairman of the Yanggang Provincial People's Committee, and other functionaries at a mass rally in Yanggang Province.

## So Yun-sok Reads WPK Message to Anju Miners

*SK3012030791 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1300 GMT 28 Dec 91*

[Congratulatory message from the Workers Party of Korea [WPK] Central Committee to workers, technicians, and office employees, and members of the three revolutions teams at Anju District Coal Mining Complex; read by So Yun-sok, member of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee, responsible secretary of the South Pyongan Provincial party Committee, and chairman of the South Pyongan Provincial People's Committee—recorded]

[Text] The Workers Party of Korea [WPK] Central Committee offers wholehearted congratulations to all of the workers, technicians, office employees, and members of the three revolutions teams at Anju District Coal Mining Complex who, upholding the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song's historic on-the-spot guidance, have attained great success in coal production and mine building by firmly establishing the chuche-oriented socialist economic management system. [applause]

The Anju District coal mine is a large-scale coal-producing base that constitutes the lifeline in strengthening the foundation for the nation's economy of self-reliance and in realizing the cause of making the national economy chuche-oriented, modernized, and science-oriented.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, with his deep insight into the historical significance of Anju District coal mine in socialist construction, concentrated great effort on developing coal mines in this district from earlier on. While giving on-the-spot guidance to Anju coal mines on 23 December 1961, he provided a brilliant example of embodying the Taean work method in the mining industrial sector and then opened a boulevard for developing the coal mines.

The working class and functionaries at Anju District Coal Mining Complex, upholding the leadership of the party and leader, have made epoch-making progress in providing guidance and management over coal production and made great advances in rebuilding and expanding the coal mines and in increasing coal production by implementing the Taean work method over the past 30 years.

The working class and functionaries at the coal mines, driven by their single-minded determination of loyalty to satisfactorily fulfill the revolutionary duty assigned to them by the party, have enabled the coal mines to play a still greater role in developing various areas of the national economy, including the electrical industry, metallurgical industry, and rural economy, by making collective advances in such areas as tunneling, extraction, and transportation, by displaying high mass heroism.

In the course of a struggle to increase coal production braving unfavorable natural conditions, the miners at the complex have clearly demonstrated the revolutionary spirit of our working class that is vigorously advancing along the single-track road indicated by socialism of our own style, uniting firmly around the party and leader as one, under the banner of the chuche idea.

The WPK Central Committee highly rates the great labor feats that the workers, technicians, office employees, and members of the three revolutions teams at Anju District Coal Mining Complex have performed in mine building and in coal production, with their boundless loyalty to the party and leader. [applause]

The working class and functionaries at Anju District Coal Mining Complex now face a heavy but honorable task to effect a great change in coal production.

The working class and functionaries at Anju District Coal Mining Complex should resolutely defend and safeguard the party and leader under any stormy difficulties by arming themselves firmly with our party's chuche idea and devote themselves to glorifying our country's socialism centered on the popular masses by establishing a firm revolutionary outlook on the leader in order to make themselves ardent revolutionaries, true loyalists, and extremely dutiful children in conformity with the prevailing tense situation.

## Daily Views Kim Il-song Work on Socialism

*SK3012105591 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1018 GMT 30 Dec 91*

["Winning Complete Victory of Socialism Is Historical Task Facing Korean People"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang December 30 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today devotes a by-lined article to the 5th anniversary of the publication of the great leader President Kim Il-song's immortal classical work "*For the Complete Victory of Socialism*" (December 30, 1986).

The work comprehends most reasonable proposals for winning the complete victory of socialism and accelerating the cause of national reunification.

The work shines as an undying revolutionary banner which shows the lawful course of the accomplishment of the cause of socialism by comprehensively delineating, above all, the historical position and features of a completely victorious socialist society, the article says.

It quotes the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song as teaching:

"A completely victorious socialist society is a consummated socialist society the whole of which has been working-classized and in which all the people, as equal masters of the state and society, lead an independent and creative life."

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song in his work expounded that a completely victorious socialist society is a historical stage which a society has to go through under all circumstances in order to go over to a higher stage of communism after the establishment of a socialist system and it is a society the whole of which has been working-classized, thus defining the historical position and features of the completely victorious society, the article notes, and goes on:

The completely victorious socialist society is a society the whole of which has been working-classized and in which all the people, as equal masters of the state and society, fully enjoy an independent and creative life. With the establishment of this society the transition period from capitalism to socialism comes to an end.

The work also expounds the basic problems in winning the complete victory of socialism and ways to carry them into practice, thus showing the bright road of accomplishing the cause of socialism.

The great leader, by bringing forward the new concept in his work that the fundamental question in achieving the complete victory of socialism is to transform people and social relations on the pattern of the working class so as to eliminate class differences and establish a classless society, gave a scientific answer of this important question and the key to the successful building of a completely victorious socialist society.

The work clearly shows the way of building a classless society by expounding that if a classless society is to be built, it is necessary to eliminate the class differences between workers and peasants and, to this end, it is required to establish an undivided sway of all-people ownership of the means of production.

It stresses the need to strengthen the people's government power and push ahead with the three revolutions, ideological, technical and cultural, showing the weapons and fundamental way of accomplishing the cause of socialism.

It is our party's general line of the building of socialism and communism to strengthen the people's power and accelerate the three revolutions.

Only when the people's government, the powerful weapon of the building of socialism and communism, continues to be strengthend, is it possible to successfully carry out the social remoulding for completing the communist social relations and to thoroughly realize socialist democracy.

## Establishing Law-Abiding Life Ethos Stressed

*SK0101121892 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0009 GMT 27 Dec 91*

[NODONG SINMUN 27 December editorial: "Let Us Thoroughly Establish the Revolutionary Law-Abiding Life Ethos and Further Add Luster to Socialism of Our Own Style"]

[Text] All party members and workers are vigorously struggling to brilliantly strengthen this year's historical advance. With this environment, we are significantly marking the 19th anniversary of the announcement of the DPRK's socialist constitution and constitution day.

Our nation's socialist constitution, which was personally drawn up by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, is a political charter centered on the popular masses embodying the chuche idea. The great victory and results achieved by our people in revolution and construction is legally confined and important tasks are put forth in consolidating, developing, and completing socialism of our own style centered on the popular masses.

The announcement of the socialist constitution was an event of great significance in our people's political life and the struggle to consolidate and develop our nation's socialism.

The announcement of the socialist constitution provided a strong legal weapon in resolutely advocating and adhering to the gains of socialism achieved by our people and vigorously accelerating the chuche cause.

The superiority and justness of our nation's socialist constitution has been clearly demonstrated in practical life. Because the socialist constitution was brilliantly embodied under the leadership of the party, the three revolutions—ideological, technological, and cultural—were vigorously accelerated and the socialist law-abiding life was strengthened among the party members and working people.

Through the process of embodying the socialist constitution, which legally advocates and realizes the popular masses' independent demand and interest, our people were able to further deeply experience socialism of our own style centered on the popular masses and demonstrate a devoted struggle to consolidate and develop it.

Today imperialists are performing all kinds of maneuvers to create disorder and chaos in the socialist nation. Even under this condition, socialism of our own style is being endlessly consolidated and developed and is highly displaying the might of an organized and disciplined society. This is because the invincible vitality of the socialist constitution centered on the popular masses is being clearly demonstrated.

Our nation's socialist constitution is manifesting great vitality. This is a lofty result of the wise leadership of the party and leader to thoroughly establish the revolutionary law and order.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, had deep insight into the great significance of law in consolidating and developing socialism of our own style. He drew up the socialist constitution—our nation's basic law. Based on this, he provided laws in various fields, wisely leading us in the work to thoroughly embody them.

The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il, who is resolutely advocating, adhering to, and adding luster to the socialist law provided by the great leader, published various works, including "*On Strengthening the Socialist Law-Abiding Life*," and thus developed and enriched the chuche-type law, idea, and theory. He also made it possible for all the party members and working people including the functionaries to respect and thoroughly abide by the law. Therefore, in our nation today, the revolutionary law-abiding life ethos was further manifested and society was well organized.

Now we are faced with the heavy task of strengthening the revolutionary law and order to resolutely advocate and adhere to socialism of our own style and further accelerate socialist building in accordance with the demand of modeling the whole society after the chuche idea.

The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il has pointed out: In accordance with the demand of the developing revolution, we must endlessly strengthen the socialist law-abiding life so that the superiority and vitality of the social system of our state can be highly manifested, and we must successfully fulfill the historical cause of completely realizing the independence of the working popular masses.

Our people's most superior and stable state political, economic, and ideological and cultural lives are regulated by law. Therefore, the role of socialist law must be enhanced, and abiding by law and order becomes a mighty method in advocating and adhering to socialism of our own style centered on the popular masses and further manifesting its superiority.

The superiority and might of socialism of our own style is based on collectivism where all the people move consistently, help each other, and unite strength. The unity of the people is achieved when they thoroughly abide by law and its regulation.

It is especially important to firmly establish law and order today because the imperialists are persistently maneuvering to infiltrate corrupt ideology and culture and spread the wind of liberalism into socialist nations. Thoroughly abiding by the laws and regulations are also important in achieving great upsurges in socialist building and vigorously accelerating the three revolutions—ideological, technological, and cultural.

To thoroughly establish socialist law and order, all party members and working people must above all experience the preciousness of the socialist law of our own style and increase their determination to abide by it.

All party members and working people must know that the text of the state law, including the socialist constitution, warmly reflects the lofty intention of our party to thoroughly serve the people and defend their fate. Most important, we must never forget that our socialist law is an important socialist gain obtained by blood in the long struggle to embody the chuche idea and resolutely advocate and adhere to it generation after generation.

The party members and working people must have a correct viewpoint of the chuche-type socialist law. To achieve this they must always bear in mind the great benevolence of the party and the leader that resolutely advocates and legally guarantees an independent and creative life for the popular masses.

Also, aware that they must repay the great consideration and benevolence of the party and the leader who provided the laws and regulations centered on the popular masses, they must abide by the law voluntarily and thoroughly live all life, extending from the state political life to the individual life, in an organized way which the law demands.

What is also important in further establishing the revolutionary law and order of the whole nation well is to strengthen the law-abiding indoctrination among the working people.

All party organizations and functionaries of the people's governing organ and mass organizations must always pay great attention to enhancing the law-abiding consciousness of the working people and let them know in various ways the superiority of the law of socialism of our own style centered on the popular masses, and the laws, regulations, and order of the state so that anyone can have a correct understanding and viewpoint about the law and make abiding by it a habit and part of their daily life.

To strengthen the law-abiding indoctrination, the law-abiding indoctrination system established by our party must be correctly motivated. The role of the legal guidance personnel must especially be enhanced. In the party organizations and related organs, especially among the youth and children, work must be done to deeply make them understand the significance and importance of establishing the law-abiding ethos and substantially carry out the law-abiding indoctrination work among them.

What is also important is that the work to thoroughly establish law and order throughout the nation must progress into a work of the masses themselves.

Party organizations at all levels and functionaries of the people's governing organ must substantially perform the political and organizational work to further expand and develop the movement to gain the title of an exemplary law-abiding county in which its justness and vitality is demonstrated through practice. To achieve this, county and party committees of the province and city must actively support this movement through the party method, and work must be done well to give priority to being the example in advanced units and generalizing it.

It is important for the functionaries of all sectors and units to set a fine example in thoroughly establishing revolutionary law and order throughout the whole nation. In whatever unit or outpost, all the functionaries must always bear in mind that their behavior influences the masses, and they must abide by the law and order and its regulations more than anyone else.

The economic guidance functionaries must also set a fine example in the struggle to abide by the law in economic management work. The functionaries of the people's governing organ at all levels must correctly organize and guide the law-abiding life from the party- type and working-class position and work so that all state and social life can be organized and progress according to the demand of laws and regulations.

Let us all highly uphold the intention of the party and thoroughly abide by the socialist law centered on the popular masses so that socialism of our own style can be further enhanced and socialist building will be vigorously accelerated.

## Daily Stresses Party's Leadership for Prosperity

*SK0201024692 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0017 GMT 28 Dec 91*

[NODONG SINMUN 28 December special article: "Our Party's Leadership is a Firm Guarantee for the Nation's Growth and Prosperity"]

[Text] Our people are now enjoying a happy and rewarding life to their hearts' content in the golden era of national growth and prosperity.

Each and every one of our people takes boundless national pride and self-respect in being Korean and in living and being engaged in the revolution. It is thanks to the wise guidance of our party which is leading the nation to prosperity that our people take such great national pride.

Our party has performed immortal feats on the road of realizing national prosperity overcoming the mounting difficulties. With its long-term plan for national prosperity and enormous capacity to translate the plan into action, our party enjoys the lofty honor and authority as a great guide of national prosperity.

Not only do our people foresee, with certainty, the eye-dazzling future of the nation in the greatness and high dignity of our party, but they also renew their determination to achieve boundless national prosperity under the guidance of the party.

1. The people's rewarding life and their eye-dazzling future are associated with the prosperity of the country and people.

The country and people are the firm united body of people and community bound together by the same destiny which has been formed socially and historically.

The revolution, construction, and people's independent and creative life are to be realized with the country and people as their unit. This being the case, the national destiny is at once the destiny of the people and the national prosperity is at once the people's happiness. People find their honor, pride, and brilliant future in national prosperity. Unfolding now in our fatherland is the golden era of great prosperity unprecedented in the long history of our nation.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song has taught: We are now living in an era of prosperity unheard of in the history of our fatherland and people. The economy in our country is on the upswing, science and technology are rapidly developing, and national culture is in full blossom and brilliant.

The golden era of national prosperity is a proud historical era when all domains in the country are fully blossoming and developing and the national reconstruction is being realized. It is in such a period that national might grows even stronger, the national economic strength grows stronger in all the sectors of the country, monumental creations of the era capable of guaranteeing the national prosperity and happiness are being erected en masse.

Without fail, a great people and a great nation has had an era of great prosperity that demonstrated its honor and stately appearance. A truly golden era of national prosperity is a golden era that continues without interruption, from generation to generation, and that brings prosperity to all sectors.

Today, the golden era of national prosperity, which is also called the prosperous era of the Workers Party, is the continuation and a higher stage of the national prosperity that the great leader has achieved in the long course of leading the revolution and construction.

With the desire of the times and nation pinned on him, the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song led the anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle to victory, thereby realizing the historic cause of national liberation. He has also turned our country into a powerful socialist country of independence, self-reliance, and self-defense by leading the building of a new society, while realizing the nation's independent development and prosperity.

After presenting a long-term plan designed to glorify this proud history of national prosperity provided by the great leader even further, our party is now wisely leading the struggle for its realization.

As a result, today, the nineties, which is led by our party, is characterized by an era of enormous changes in which the struggle for the naton's eternal prosperity of the nation is being carried out on a scope and in breadth previously unknown and our fatherland has now entered a golden age of national prosperity and growth.

Under the party's leadership, our people are now achieving uninterrupted progress and prosperity not in any single realm, but in all areas of the revolution and construction, including the economy, politics, and culture.

No other people have brought about such basic changes in all areas of social life in just over a few decades as our people have. Contained in this are the characteristics and might of the national prosperity attained by our people.

In the past our nation was literally called a synomym for backwardness and poverty. That our people were under domination of semi-feudal, colonial social relations, that they were far behind modern civilization, and that they suffered illiteracy is not a distant past but the tragic portrait of our people only about 40 years ago.

Our people, however, are now proud of the fact that they have reached the high peak of national prosperity.

Under the wise leadership of our party, our people are now endlessly glorifying their dignity and honor of being independent people, not to mention their grand spirit of being highly independent people.

Ours is an age of independence. To the peoples in our era, exploring the future of the people on their own with the high national spirit of independence constitutes one of the important symbols of national prosperity.

A prosperous people can be defined as a people every one of whom leads a rewarding and happy life to his heart's content as an independent social being and cherishes a high degree of national dignity and self-respect.

A people cannot be said to have achieved true prosperity if they have no high degree of national dignity and self-respect and are, therefore, unable to explore the future of the nation independently, no matter how developed their economy and science and technology may be.

True national prosperity has its expression in the spirit of high national independence, dignity, and the political and ideological might of the people.

National development and prosperity is, ultimately, a process in which the people explore the destiny of the nation on their own based on the spirit of high national independence.

Under the circumstances in which the imperialist dominationist force continue to exist on the face of earth that keep maneuvering to suppress and subjugate other countries and peoples, glorifying the nation's sovereignty and dignity infinitely based on the spirit of high national independence is a matter of life and death to any people.

As they cherish the pride and self-respect of regarding no other leader and party as good as their own leader and party, and no other ideology and system as good as the chuche idea and our socialist system, our people are the great people having the strongest independence.

Our people's lofty national spirit and ethos are to firmly keep the spirit of national independence alive under any circumstances and to resolve to live and struggle in their own way under the guidance of their own leader and party.

Our people are achieving national development and prosperity according to their conviction and determination, while nurturing clear-cut consciousness of national independence all the time.

Under no circumstances do our people allow anybody to trample underfoot our national sovereignty and dignity and are energetically advancing according to the dictate of their faith, with the pride and self-respect that the path on which they advance is the most correct and just.

Our people's lofty spiritual world has nothing to do with the idea of depending on outside forces and the submissive idea of playing to the tune of others and of depending on others instead of relying on one's own, without one's own opinion or faith.

Our people who were mercilessly trampled underfoot by alien aggressors in the past have now become an independent, courageous, and proud people whom nobody dare belittle or challenge. This is indeed a great change taking place in our people's exploration of their own fate and position.

Our socialism our people have built in their fatherland on their own is a socialism centered on the popular masses which has most thoroughly embodied the demands of the times and our people's aspirations for independence.

Each and every one of our people is treasuring and loving the socialist system as the true basis on which to live and enjoy political freedom and a happy life there to his heart's content.

In our society the working people are respected, they get the best of everything. In our society those who were servants in the past have now become deputies to power organs and obscure people have emerged as heroes.

The proud reality of our society is that all the people are bringing their creative resourcefulness and talent to full flower thanks to their high national pride and self-respect, and that they are living and carrying out the revolution under the most superior socialist system.

This dynamically proves how high national pride and position can soar when all the people are developing and consolidating the socialist system centered on the popular masses.

Under our party's wise leadership, our people also achieved amazing progress and prosperity in economic and cultural development.

It is an important issue for achieving the nation's prosperity and growth to enlighten and develop a brilliant national culture based on one's own economic power.

By firmly adhering to the line of building a self-reliant national economy in the economic construction domain, our people have built a powerful material and technological foundation for the nation's prosperity and growth.

Self-reliance in economy is one of the important factors for national prosperity. Unless a country and people attain self-reliance in economy, they cannot defend the nation's sovereignty nor can they ensure a happy, rich life for the people.

Only when one builds one's own self-reliant, independent national economy, can one advance at a rapid speed without wavering by any economic crisis and tenaciously defend the nation's sovereignty and the basic principles of the revolution.

In the domain of economic construction, the might of a nation and a people is to be demonstrated in building a national economy which is not subjugated to any others and which is capable of ensuring a rich material life for one's own people based on one's own might and resources.

Today bases for powerful heavy industry and light industry, including machine manufacturing industry, metallurgical industry, and mining industry, have been built in our country and enormous productive capacity has been provided.

In particular, the chuche-orientation and modernization of and application of science to the national economy have been vigorously pushed ahead in recent years. Thus, the might of a self-reliant national economy has been incomparably strengthened and socialist construction is constantly advancing toward a lofty stage.

Our economy, which was unable to produce even a pencil with its own strength in the past, today has become a diversified and comprehensive economy capable of smoothly satisfying everything required for the development of the nation and the people. Our economy has been consolidated as a chuche-oriented, self-reliant national economy, all domains of which are equipped with modern technology and which is advancing based on its own natural resources and raw materials.

Because we have such a powerful self-reliant national economy, we need not beg from any other people without national dignity nor do we have to maintain our economy by depending on other people.

Today amid economic pressure intensified by the imperialists including the U.S. imperialists, our people are accelerating economic construction at a high speed, and are constantly building a number of monumental creations for the greater prosperity of the nation.

We built the enormous-scale Sohae Lockgate by crossing a 20-ri-long wild sea only in 5 years, and completed the first-stage construction of Sunchon Vinalon Complex, and built one after another the Northern district railroad and new creations of the era of the Workers Party.

Indeed, today's era of the Workers Party in the 5,000-year long history of our nation is illuminated as the proud time when a number of creations have been built for the people and a great golden age of construction is unfolding.

Thanks to such precious national assets and creations, our people's long-cherished desire to eat cooked rice with meat soup, to wear silk clothes and to live happily under a tile roof will be realized in the near future without fail.

Since our party's line for building chuche-type socialist national culture has been brilliantly embodied, socialist culture, socialist morality and socialist life-style, which correspond to our people's sentiment and which clearly show the working-class nature, have been created in our country.

The chuche-oriented popular socialist education system has been provided in our country and intellectualization of entire society has been successfully realized. All the people are enjoying a happy life, free from diseases, under the benefit of the comprehensive free medical treatment system.

Today our literature and art came into full bloom as the most elegant and dignified chuche literature and art combined with a lofty ideological nature and a noble artistic nature based on the nationalist form and socialist content. Thus, they are enjoying acclaim and love from the world's people, not to mention our people.

Never before in our long history was there a time as today when our people highly demonstrated national wisdom and honor in all domains of science, education, and culture. For this, the era of new civilization has come into full bloom, thus glorifying our nation's history with independence and creation.

Under the wise leadership of our party, a great turning point was effected in the people's political and ideological traits and in the unity and cohesion of the nation.

The development and prosperity of a nation are to be demonstrated by the political and ideological traits and unity of the people constituting the nation. Those who create the material assets for national prosperity are the popular masses and those who reform the social relations are the popular masses. The course of the nation's development is, in essence, the course of development and accomplishment of political and ideological traits of the popular masses. The might of a nation is to be defined by the power of the unity of the nation.

Today our people are achieving the nation's prosperity and growth by cherishing a lofty pride in being the people who are carrying out the revolution and socialist construction by regarding the immortal chuche idea as their faith.

Everyone first thinks of the nation's prosperity and future before his own pleasure and happiness and gives priority to the interest of the society and group over the honor and remuneration given to individuals. Everyone demonstrates all-people heroism while helping and leading each other. This is the noble spiritual world and trait of our people.

The lofty ideological and spiritual might of all the people throughout the country, who live and fight heroically by cherishing one idea and one faith, is indeed the precious asset and property of our people which cannot be bought with enormous amounts of money and valuables.

The nation's prosperity is based on the power of unity. Unless the entire society is monolithically ruled by one idea and unless a noble sense of obligation and comradely love—the lofty collectivist relations—are formed among the people, the nation's genuine might cannot be displayed.

Today our people have realized the most solid ideological and conscientious unity unprecedented in history. The party, the guiding force of the revolution, and the people, the very persons in charge of the revolution, are linked with unbreakable ties, and share their destiny. All the people think and move with one intention according to one idea and one will.

Today our people completely link their destiny with that of the party. Our people endlessly respect and follow their party regarding it as the nation's leader. The leader and people are united with lofty comradely love and a revolutionary sense of obligation, not with business-like relations, and all the people live and work according only to the party's idea and will by firmly trusting the party as their own hearts and brains. This is our very proud reality. This cannot be seen in any other place. This is the most important aspect showing our nation's might.

Thanks to such great single-hearted unity and the cohesion of all the people throughout the country, there is nothing that we cannot attain if we so decide and there is no fortress which we cannot occupy.

The great leader who pioneered the new era of national prosperity, the great party which brilliantly inherited the leader's cause, and the great people who loyally uphold the party and the leader are firmly united as one. Thus, no matter how long a time may pass and no matter what generations may have changed, we can firmly maintain our nation's life and advance toward a bright future.

Today our people are vigorously fighting by cherishing an optimistic view and confidence in the bright future of the nation.

Indeed, our party enhanced the position and situation of our fatherland and people onto the highest stage by brilliantly inheriting the history of national prosperity pioneered by the great leader and by constantly deepening and developing this history. Besides, our party provided an everlasting foundation on which we can achieve the nation's prosperity generation after generation.

Therefore, our people proudly extol our nation's lofty authority, dignity, and brilliant future by linking them with our party's name. Our people regard loyally upholding the party's cause as an incomparable honor and happiness.

2. The outstanding leadership and great guiding traits cherished by our party are a basic source for unfolding and glorifying the golden age of great prosperity and growth unprecedented in our nation's history.

Comrade Kim Chong-il, member of the Political Bureau Presidium and secretary of the WPK Central Committee, has indicated: Our party made immortal achievements in implementing the chuche revolutionary cause and enjoys absolute trust from the popular masses. Our party is an indomitable revolutionary party which attained unity and cohesion of iron-clad ranks and which has rich experiences and skillful and tested leadership. Thanks to our party, our people could always advance along the straight road of victory by overcoming various trials and could firmly defend the people's dignity and the nation's sovereignty without wavering under any storm.

The nation's prosperity and growth are the ideal and goal of all people and all nations. Genuine prosperity of a nation depends on the leader who leads the nation. Therefore, the people link the golden age of a nation with the leader.

The development and prosperity of our nation have been realized through the wise leadership of our party which is leading the revolution and construction by assuming the chuche idea as its guideline.

The development and prosperity of a nation are defined by the guiding idea of that nation. The guiding idea is a basic factor for deciding the direction and form of development of the nation. The experiences of history and reality show that the might of a nation depends on what guiding idea the people have assumed as their weapon and on how they achieve national development.

The prosperity and growth of the era of the Workers Party have been achieved by the greatness of the chuche idea and its indomitable vitality.

From the outset, the work to achieve the nation's development and prosperity was the struggle to realize the original demand of the popular masses to enjoy a dignified and rewarding life. Thus, the guiding idea of a nation should be a men-centered guiding ideal, and should thoroughly defend and achieve the independent demand and interest of the popular masses.

The chuche idea thoroughly defends the nation's sovereignty and dignity by implementing the theory, strategy, and tactics of the revolution with the working masses as the center. The chuche idea also comprehensively elucidated the road for achieving the independence of the popular masses.

Thus, the chuche idea has become a most correct guideline for the independent development and prosperity of our nation.

The origin of our nation's prosperity and growth was opened by the chuche idea. Our nation's enlightenment and development have been achieved with the chuche idea as the guideline.

What is important in the leadership of our party for achieving the nation's prosperity and growth is to thoroughly subjugate all problems to defending and protecting the political independence of our nation.

As the chuche idea expounded, political independence is the most important issue in achieving the development of the nation and the people. Without political independence, no one can think of the development and prosperity of a nation.

Our party paid fundamental attention to strengthening the political independence of the nation and of the people based on the chuche idea. All activities of our party in leading the struggle to achieve the prosperity and growth of the nation have been consistent with the work to defend and glorify the political independence and dignity of the nation.

All the people should defend and achieve the independence of the nation in firm unity by regarding the independence as the life of the nation, and should realize the nation's prosperity. This is our party's chuche-oriented outlook on the nation.

This idea is the correct guideline which enables one to achieve the nation's prosperity based on the might of the nation's unity and to thoroughly defend and adhere to the political independence and dignity of the nation.

Our party, considering the chuche-oriented view of the nation to be a basic guideline in waging the struggle to achieve the nation's growth and prosperity, has consistently implemented it in the revolution and construction. In mapping out its lines on state construction and presenting its economic construction programs, our party glorified our nation's political independence and dignity and consolidated our country's might by every means. Also, in devising its lines and policies on cultural construction, external affairs, and all other fields, it ensured that national independence and honor be displayed. Because of this chuche-oriented leadership of our party, the nation's aspirations and demand for independence are fully implemented in all the fields of our society, and national dignity and independence are being defended and maintained most steadfastly. This great reality clearly shows how wise is the leadership of our party, which is firmly establishing the nation's political independence and achieving the nation's prosperity in compliance with national interest and demands.

What is also important in the leadership of our party, which is achieving the nation's growth and prosperity, is the fact that it is resolving everything in our own style by our nation's independent efforts. The nation's heyday is a period when its superiority and that of its people's are demonstrated. Therefore, the implementation of the people's aspirations and demands and the people's boundless creativity guarantee the nation's boundless prosperity. Our party is energetically leading a struggle to create something new and revolutionary in all the fields of social life in compliance with our nation's aspirations and interests and the demand of the Workers Party era.

Because of the revolutionary leadership of our party, which is waging a struggle for the nation's growth and prosperity in our own style by our nation's independent efforts, our style of political lives and economic lives and our style of culture and socialist lives are being more fully advanced in our society. Our party independently carries out economic construction with our resources and technology and our creative style of economic management system and method, builds national and socialist edifices in our own style in compliance with our people's feelings and demands, educates people to become genuine patriots who boundlessly love the country and nation and who pool their wisdom and energy for the growth and prosperity of the country and nation. This great reality clearly shows how great our nation's prosperity and future are.

Our party, which firmly adheres to the principles of chuche and self-reliance in waging the struggle for the nation's growth and prosperity, firmly believing in our nation's independent might and potential, is vigorously accelerating the revolution and construction by utilizing this might and potential.

Our party's firm position is that it can carry out any task in the struggle for the nation's prosperity if the might and wisdom of our nation, which has a high revolutionary spirit, which is progressive, and which has the strong capacity for united action and a heroic struggle spirit, is demonstrated. This belief and the leadership of our party are a source that helps our nation pool its entire might and wisdom and that demonstrates matchless heroism in waging the struggle for the nation's prosperity.

In the past, our people, as people of a small country, lost their brilliance and could not fully demonstrate their genuine wisdom and might. However, today, ours have become people who do anything by demonstrating the nation's might and wisdom once they make up their mind to and revolutionary people who fight like phoenixes.

With astonishing boldness and a strong will, our party is carrying out work for the nation's prosperity on an unprecedented scale. Today's heyday, which our party has brought about, is a grand day when our nation's aspirations and earnest desires have been turned into realities. All the grand avenues and monumental edifices that have been erected on this land were mere fantasies in the past. Therefore, people are amazed at the scale and astonishing boldness of the plan of our party, which has built these creations.

Our party is mapping out plans for grand-scale construction projects for the nation's growth and prosperity that no one can imagine and boldly implementing those plans. Thinking big and boldly implementing plans is a principle that our party is consistently adhering to in carrying out construction projects for the nation's prosperity. This leadership character of our party is being clearly demonstrated in building 50,000 housing units in the capital. Our party initiated a plan to build a modern housing complex, almost the size of a city, and is now at the completion stage. This is what only our party, which has incomparable boldness and the power of execution, can do.

Our party is making sure that all the creations of the Workers Party era be built to last a long time. Our party's leadership of this nature is implemented in mapping out a general plan for national land development, plans to develop underground resources, and even plans to erect grand buildings of the Workers Party era. Our party's outstanding wisdom, bold planning, and tested leadership and the masses' creative wisdom and might are secrets of all the excellent creations of the Workers Party era. As a result, new creations of the Workers Party era, the highest reach of the art of construction, are being erected in Pyongyang, the revolutionary capital, and all the other cities and villages across the country, and our fatherland is being turned into a people's paradise in which to better live.

Our party is carrying out work for the nation's growth and prosperity in ways to achieve innovations in all the fields. Revolutionary slogans are being resounded in all the fields from science and technology, education, and culture to the service sector in our country today. This is the demonstration of the will of our party and people to carry out work for the nation's growth and development in a short period of time on the highest level.

Under the party's leadership, great changes have taken place in the overall state and social fields in our country. We must make great strides if it is to make our country a prosperous, powerful socialist state based upon these achievements. This will determine the growth and development of the country and nation to an important degree.

The problem of making great strides in all the fields in a short period of time can only be solved in revolutionary ways. Making great strides in all the fields of life in innovative and revolutionary ways even after the socialist system is established is an inevitable demand for national development. Therefore, under the uplifted banner of the three revolutions—ideological, technological, and culural—our party is vigorously struggling to innovate and revolutionize all the fields of life. Also, our party is carrying out the work of making revolutions in scientific and technological and cultural fields and bringing revolutionary changes in the light industry and service sectors.

Our party's energetic leadership in brining the heyday of the nation's prosperity gives great joy and confidence to our people today. When the construction of a new society started long ago, our people, filled with confidence and seeing the nation's brilliant future from the respected and beloved leader's greatness, started the historic march for the nation's prosperity. Today, when scores of years have passed, this historic cause is being endlessly advanced and brilliantly realized by our party. This is our nation's boundless honor and pride.

Our party is the creator and defender of our nation's boundless growth and development and our people's genuine happiness. From the honorable road on which they have implemented the country's long-range plans under the party's leadership and from the nation's prosperity and brilliant future, our people have come to firmly believe that ours is a party that will also be deeply loved and respected by the people of generations to come.

Our party has brought about very big achievements in the struggle to implement grand plans to provide the nation with a brilliant future. Our people consider it the greatest honor and happiness to live in this honorable era in which they are being led by the great party and to decorate our nation's history with the most brilliant annals. This honor and happiness will remain deep in the people's hearts and will be eternally brilliant.

Achieving the nation's greater prosperity under the leadership of the party and the leader is the firm will of our party members and workers. Today, our people are living in the most worthwhile period in which the flowering of the nation's great prosperity is being marked.

From their experiences in actual living, our people cherished deep in their hearts the notion that a nation that has the great leader [yongdoja] can cultivate the proud history of the nation's prosperity and brilliantly inherit it.

The rock-firm belief engraved in all the people's hearts today to eternally uphold and follow our party with wholehearted faithfulness is based on the truth of such struggles and historical experiences and is never affected by any kind of storm.

Consolidating our people's great single-hearted unity around the party and the leader guarantees that the national history of prosperity shall be endlessly glorified. Unity is a motive to achieve the nation's prosperity and to open a happy tomorrow for the people. Inheritance of the nation's growth and prosperity is the inheritance of unity.

We have to fasten even further the unity around the leader to keep up the national history of prosperity. The key to achieving the nation's boundless prosperity can be seen only when we invariably hold fast to and succeed to our revolutionary force's single-hearted unity around the party and the leader.

Deeply bearing in mind the party's plan and intention to achieve the nation's growth and prosperity through inheritance of unity, all the party members and workers should actively struggle to hold fast and to strengthen the single-hearted unity of the leader, the party, and the people.

All the party members and workers should unite even stronger around the party and the leader and create miracles and innovations in all fields of socialist construction under the uplifted banner of the three revolutions, so as to achieve the endless growth and prosperity of the fatherland and the nation.

## KCNA Reviews 3 Jan Pyongyang Press

*SK0301061792 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0508 GMT 3 Jan 92*

[Press review]

[Text] Pyongyang January 3 (KCNA)—Dailies here today carry messages of greetings to Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, from foreign party and state leaders on the New Year 1992.

NODONG SINMUN editorially calls upon the whole nation to turn out in fulfilling the policy and tasks for national reunification put forward by the great leader President Kim Il-song in his new year address. Carried in it are repercussions evoked by the new year address upon party members and working people.

His new year address was reported by foreign mass media, the daily says.

Printed in the daily are messages of greetings from foreign party and state leaders to the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il upon his election as supreme commander of the Korean People's Army.

Papers carry words of South Korean people highly praising President Kim Il-song and Comrade Kim Chong-il as the distinguished leaders of the nation.

Conveyed in NODONG SINMUN are world public voices praising the greatness of President Kim Il-song.

The Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea sent messages of greetings to the 14th congress of the Communist Party of India (Marxist) and To Joao Bernardo Vieira upon his election as chairman of the African Party for Independence of Guinea-Bissau and Cape Verde, according to the paper.

It informs the readers that thanks of the WPK Central Committee [C.C.] was conveyed to Chongju County, North Pyongan Province, for its example in helping the Korean People's Army.

It carries a message to the WPK Central Committee from the C.C., the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party upon the adoption of the North-South agreement.

An article of the paper explains why it is our general direction in socialist construction at the present time to establish chuche principle more firmly in all fields of politics, the economy and culture so that we may actively provide against the rapidly changing situation by pressing on with the three revolutions—ideological, technical and cultural.

NODONG SINMUN carries articles which say that the unity and cohesion of the Workers' Party of Korea and our revolutionary ranks in ideology and will have been achieved on a new high level.

The paper informs the readers that the Peruvian president and the general secretary of the Popular Action Party of Peru respectively met the DPRK ambassador to their country.

The Central Committee of Hanminjon sent a open letter to the South Korean people denouncing Bush's planned visit to South Korea [words indistinct] the North and the South of Korea.

The paper in a commentary denounces the plan of the Japanese Government to dispatch "Self-defence Forces" overseas.

Comrade Jiang Zemin stressed that it is a fundamental condition for successes in all work to adhere to and strengthen the party leadership, the executive committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization called for smashing the scheme of Israel to torpedo the Middle East Peace negotiations, says the paper. The paper introduces the successes of Cuba, Laos, Iran and Pakistan in economic construction.

The daily in an article condemns the U.S. imperialists for increasing the military tensions and the danger of war on the Korean peninsula.

## Official on Economic Plans for North, Bush Visit

*SK0301092392 Seoul TONG-A ILBO in Korean 3 Jan 92 p 2*

[Text] It was learned that the government may offer economic cooperation in the form of funds to North Korea if North Korea so desires.

On 3 January, a high-ranking government official said that "the issue of offering economic cooperation funds to North Korea through the North-South joint committee for economic cooperation and exchange, which will be established when the North-South agreement takes effect, can be discussed."

This official also revealed that "in the event that an open account is established between North and South central banks, with an increase in trade between the two sides, we would be willing to bear the balance of payment in a way that is favorable for North Korea as part of economic cooperation according to the North side's attitude."

In particular, concerning the plan for developing the Tuman River Valley, which is being pushed under the supervision of the United Nations Development Program [UNDP], he noted that "if the North and the South reach an agreement, our government will extend the maximum assistance to the development of Najin and Sonbong free trade ports in the North side."

However, concerning economic exchanges with North Korea by civilian enterprises of the South, this official stressed that "the government is planning to conduct comprehensive mediation in advance of civilian enterprises advancing into North Korea for trade. This is to prevent the phenomena of disorder, including the excessive competition that was seen when enterprises advanced into the Middle East and East Europe and when they carried out economic cooperation with Soviet Union and economic exchanges with China, from being repeated."

On the other hand, concerning the ROK-U.S. trade issue, this official revealed that "during U.S. President Bush's visit to the ROK (5 and 6 January), we have decided to hold separate talks on trade issues between economy-related ministers of our side and U.S. businessmen who are accompanying President Bush." He added that "an agreement was recently reached on operating a high government-level consultative organization in the future to promote trade and cooperation between the ROK and the United States."

The minister of the Economic Planning Board, the finance minister, and the minister of science and technology from our side were going to participate in talks with U.S. businessmen. However, the U.S. side requested the participation of the minister of communications and the minister of transportation from our side. Thus, it is anticipated that the U.S. side will demand expanded opening of the communications and transportation markets.

## U.S. Seeks Management of Health Care Facilities

*SK0301015092 Seoul YONHAP in English 0104 GMT 3 Jan 92*

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 3 (YONHAP)—The United States recently called on South Korea to allow foreign management of health care facilities and is expected to make further efforts to make inroads into Korea's medical service market, officials at the Health and Social Affairs Ministry said Friday.

The U.S. request was conveyed to the ministry Dec. 27 via the Korean delegates to the Uruguay Round trade talks in Geneva, they said.

The request was contained in the reply to a questionnaire submitted to the United States following its Oct. 16 demand for access to Korea's medical service market.

"If the U.S. call is limited to the management of health care facilities, it will be positively considered to promote development of management techniques at local hospitals," a ministry official said.

An official of the Korea Medical Association, a nationwide organization of doctors, said, however, that he believed the U.S. call was aimed, in the long run, at securing a bridgehead in entering the medical market in Korea.

"If the giant capitals of America open mammoth medical facilities with ultra-modern equipment here, domestic facilities will suffer grave damage. The U.S. call this time may only seek to carry out management of domestic hospitals, but it may in the long run be aimed at securing a bridgehead in entering the medical market," he said.

Chin Yong-chol, vice president of Seoul National University's hospital, also expressed concern about the impact of a U.S. presence in Korea's medical market.

"The United States will not immediately influence the domestic medical sector even if it manages local facilities. But if the giant U.S. capitals establish hospitals here, it will surely have a grave impact on local hospitals," Chin said.

The United States also hinted at a long-term plan to run medical facilities in Korea by saying in the latest call that it would welcome the ownership of health care facilities in Korea.

The call also included lease and management of up-to-date medical apparatus for hospitals and clinics in Korea.

## Government Seeks South-North-PRC Economic Bloc

*SK0201121992 Seoul YONHAP in English 0956 GMT 2 Jan 92*

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 2 (YONHAP)—South Korea hopes to form an economic bloc of three nations to combine

South Korea's capital with North Korea's natural resources and China's labor, a government official said Thursday.

"It would spur inter-Korean exchanges and enhance relations between Seoul and Beijing," he said. "We expect a better climate in the political rapprochement with China and a supply of resources worth 1.7 billion U.S. dollars each year from North Korea."

The "Yellow Sea rim economic bloc" plan envisions South Korean capital and technological investment in coastal areas of China, use of Chinese labor to manufacture goods and North Korean supply of resources to pay for the imports of the products.

The official, who declined to be named, said the government would push for the tripartite link during a ministerial meeting of the U.N. Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific slated for April in Beijing.

He expected China to benefit from the South Korean capital and technologies for its economic development and North Korea to get a relief from its cash crunch.

"China understands that progress in inter-Korean relations would benefit Chinese economic development as well," he said, adding that China has shown keen interest in the proposed construction of railways linking Seoul with Pyongyang and Beijing since the fifth round of inter-Korean prime ministers' talks.

## Trade Deficit Exceeds $9 Billion for 1991

*SK0301022192 Seoul YONHAP in English 0154 GMT 3 Jan 92*

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 3 (YONHAP)—South Korea's trade deficit for 1991 was 9,659 million [9 billion and 659 million] U.S. dollars on a customs clearance basis, according to a final tally by the Trade and Industry Ministry released Friday.

The deficit is the largest ever and twice the figure of 4.83 million dollars in 1990, when Korea's run of surpluses ended with a bang. The international balance was 7.5 billion dollars in the red.

Exports hit 71,898 million dollars, up 10.6 percent over 1990, and imports surged 16.8 percent to 81,557 million dollars, the tally showed.

The trade balance with North America and Europe turned to a minus and Korea continued deficits with Asia, the Middle East, Oceania and communist and former communist countries. Trade with Latin American and African nations remained in the black.

The ministry says it expects a deficit of 9.5 billion dollars this year—exports of 81 billion dollars, up 13 percent from 1991, and imports of 90.5 billion dollars, up 11 percent.

In 1991, Korean goods were shipped to more countries than in previous years.

Exports to Southeast Asian, Latin American, Middle Eastern and communist and ex-communist nations rose. Exports to the three major markets—the United States, Japan and Western Europe—fell from 62.9 percent of Korea's total in 1990 to 57 percent.

Exports of heavy and chemical industrial products, including petrochemicals, electronics, machinery, cars and ships, rose 17.5 percent and their portion of total exports grew from 56.4 percent to 60.1 percent.

Exports of light industrial goods such as textiles, footwear, toys and empty containers increased 1 percent.

Growth in imports for domestic use led overall import growth last year. Imports for re-export rose 4.8 percent to 22.71 billion dollars and imports for domestic use surged 23.7 percent to 57.36 billion dollars.

Imports of consumer goods rose 20.2 percent to 7.86 billion dollars, compared with 9 percent in 1990.

In December, exports totaled 7,714 million dollars, up 9.8 percent over a year earlier, and imports 6,591 million dollars, up 1.9 percent, for the only surplus month of the year.

## Oil Imports Increase by 29.4 Percent in 1991

*SK0301065092 Seoul YONHAP in English 0634 GMT 3 Jan 92*

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 3 (YONHAP)—South Korea's oil imports shot up 29.4 percent from 308.4 million barrels in 1990 to 399.1 million barrels in 1991, the Energy and Resources Ministry said Friday.

The cost was 7.82 billion U.S. dollars, up 21 percent from 6.46 billion dollars a year before, it said.

The ministry said the major reason was a steep increase in gasoline consumption led by the soaring number of cars. It also blamed high demand for naphtha in the petrochemical industry and consumption of bunker-c oil.

## Overseas Construction Contracts Exceed $3 Billion

*SK0301104492 Seoul YONHAP in English 0933 GMT 3 Jan 92*

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 3 (YONHAP)—South Korea's construction companies received 3.03 billion dollars of orders from overseas last year, up 42 percent from a year earlier, the Overseas Construction Association of Korea said Friday.

This figure excludes Donga Construction Co.'s 4.6 billion-dollar contract for the great man-made waterway construction project in Libya, the association said.

Orders from Southeast Asian nations accounted for 62.1 percent of the total, or 1.88 billion dollars, overtaking the former No. 1 market of Korean contrators, the Middle East, for the first time since 1974. Middle East nations placed orders worth 868 million dollars, followed by Pacific-rim nations including North America (245 million dollars) and Africa (37 million dollars).

Overseas construction orders rose for the third year in a row since they dipped to a record low at 1.6 billion dollars in 1988.

The increase in orders was because companies tried to expand their markets to Southeast Asia and shift from labor-intensive projects to value-added ones.

Daewoo was first at 1.16 billion dollars and Hyundai was a distant second with 664 million dollars, followed by Ssangyong (300 million dollars), Shinwha Construction (267 million dollars) and Hanil Development Co. (233 million dollars).

Officials predicted orders would rise 33-50 percent to 4 billion to 4.5 billion dollars this year thanks to Kuwaiti rehabilitation project and increasing infrastructure investment in Asia.

## Government To Auction Seized Indonesian Freighter

*SK0301022092 Seoul YONHAP in English 0130 GMT 3 Jan 92*

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 3 (OANA-YONHAP)—South Korea plans to auction off an Indonesian freighter seized for discharging oil near Inchon Port despite complaints and threats of retaliation by Indonesia, the Korea Maritime and Port Administration (KMPA) said Friday.

The 7,000-ton Niaga-47 will be sold in public bidding in the middle of January under a Korean court ruling made in December, KMPA officials said.

The Niaga was caught leaking oil in waters near the west coast port in December 1990. A fine of 3.5 million U.S. dollars was levied against the vessel's owner, and four crew members were sentenced to a prison term of six months suspended for a year.

A judge ruled last month that the ship should be sold and part of the money used to compensate Inchon residents affected by the oil.

Indonesian shipping officials retaliated by denying port entry and unloading to Korean vessels until Dec. 30, the KMPA officials said.

The freighter's owner refuses to pay the fine and crew members have recanted their statements, claiming that they were made under duress.

Korea shipped 607,000 tons of goods to Indonesia and received 4.08 million tons of imports from the nation between January and October last year.

## Daily Carries No Tae-u's New Year Message

*SK0101053492 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 1 Jan 92 p 2*

[Text] My fellow Koreans at home and abroad,

We have just ushered in 1992, and I wish all of you the fulfillment of all your wishes in the new year. Especially, I hope that the new year will bring the 20 million brethren in the North unprecedented happiness and good luck. I also extend warm greetings for the new year to our 6 million brethren overseas.

All of us share the belief that in the new year we will witness an epochal change that will bring us close to democracy, prosperity and unification. I further believe that the new year will full reward all of our people from all walks of life who have labored and endured much hardship for national development.

My fellow citizens,

The new year will open an era during which we will construct a national community for all our 70 million compatriots. Last month the South and the North signed the agreement for reconciliation, nonaggression, and exchanges and cooperation, thereby ending the era of confrontation and hostility and opening a new age of reconciliation and cooperation.

Great progress has been made in our incessant efforts to free the Korean Peninsula of nuclear terror. It is indeed good that in response to our denuclearization initiative and the removal of nuclear arms from the South, the North has announced that it will not produce nuclear arms.

It is now high time that the South and the North began to march hand in hand toward unification. Every provision of the South-North agreement must be sincerely observed. The disconnected roads must be reconnected and the disrupted train services resumed. We must remove the barbed wire between the South and the North, pave the way for free exchanges of people, goods and information, and thus advance the day of unification. Although the division of the peninsula was forced on us by external forces, we must independently achieve unification with our own wisdom and strength.

Fellow citizens,

In the wake of the Cold War, competition for greater prosperity between countries and regions has become quite intensive. This being the case, our first priority in the new year must be the revitalization of the economy in preparation for another economic takeoff. What we should do to join the ranks of the advanced countries and how we should do it is obvious. We have already reached a national consensus on this vital issue as a result of our experience over recent years. There is a general realization that the workers, businesses and the government—all the economic entities—must unite and endeavor to develop new technologies and commodities.

To improve economic competitiveness, the government has been implementing diverse measures, the results of which will be gradually felt in the new year.

In 1992, democracy will take firm root in our way of life. It must become the springboard for further development. In the elections slated for this year, our people must demonstrate their mature sense of what it means to be a democratic citizen. In other words, we must hold frugal and honest elections. We should not let the elections shake the very foundation of our national economy and destabilize the people's lives. We must exert concerted efforts to improve our political climate, firmly establish democracy and thus establish a sound social order.

It must not be overlooked that only when a democratic social order has been solidly established, will it be possible to smoothly promote South-North relations, not to mention the political and economic development of the country. Last year, we were able to lay a solid foundation for democracy by successfully ending transitional phenomena. It is especially significant that this was possible because of spontaneous public cooperation, not because of government instructions or other compulsory measures.

The government will further endeavor to preserve law and order in all sectors of society this year, based on national consensus. I expect that a new civic movement being promoted with the positive participation of people from all sectors of society will gain momentum in the new year.

Fellow citizens,

Our long cherished dream of realizing a unified democratic country, and of joining the ranks of the prosperous, advanced countries is just around the corner. On this morning of the new year that gives us new hope and strength, let's all pledge to march forward hand in hand toward the attainment of this great goal.

We must realize on our own, our ardent national desire to build a country free of tragic division and the threat of war, a country in which everybody enjoys happiness, a country of which everybody is a genuine master. Let's all join in an unswerving march to that end.

Thank you.

## DLP Not To Seek Cabinet Form of Government

*SK0101054992 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 1 Jan 92 pp 2, 11*

[Text] The ruling Democratic Liberal Party [DLP] has no plans to seek constitutional change in favor of a cabinet form of government, a party official said yesterday.

He made the comment in response to opposition leader Kim Tae-chung's allegation that the government party may try to incept the cabinet system by taking advantage of improving South-North Korean relations.

Pak Hui-tae, the ruling party's spokesman, restated that President No Tae-u has on many occasions vowed not to push for a constitutional amendment to introduce a cabinet form of government led by a prime minister as long as the people are against it. No heads the majority party.

The spokesman said Kim Tae-chung's allegation may reveal that his Democratic Party [DP] actually wants to introduce a cabinet system.

Kim Yun-hwan, the DLP's secretary-general, also said in Taegu, his hometown, Monday his party has no plans to pave the way for constitutional reform.

DP co-leader Kim Tae-chung has said President No should declare that he will not push for a cabinet system during his term of office. No's single five-year term expires in February 1993. No cannot reenter the presidential election expected toward the end of 1992.

Kim, along with some intellectuals, has warned that if inter-Korean relations improve rapidly, the South Korean government may move to change the Constitution and to institute a cabinet form of government.

Ruling party Executive Chairman Kim Yong-sam as well as Kim Tae-chung, both presidential hopefuls, have voiced vehement objections to the introduction of a cabinet system.

Intraparty feuding over the government power structure about a year ago put the faction-ridden ruling party on the verge of a breakup. The feud appeared to have been healed with President No vowing not to push a parliamentary system of government.

## DLP Presidential Hopefuls Prepare for Election

*SK0301034092 Seoul YONHAP in English 0302 GMT 3 Jan 92*

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 3 (YONHAP)—Released from their oath of silence by the New Year, the presidential hopefuls in the ruling Democratic Liberal Party (DLP) are girding for all-out war among themselves.

President No Tae-u had ordered a halt to all discussion of picking a DLP presidential nominee until the end of 1991.

No will give a news conference around Jan. 10 and meet with DLP Executive Chairman Kim Yong-sam, chief contender to be the ruling party candidate, around Jan. 17. The press and Kim will virtually have only one thing on their minds—the nomination.

No's five-year team ends in February next year, and he is not eligible for reelection.

The DLP's three factions—headed by No, former opposition leader Kim Yong-sam and former Prime Minister

Kim Chong-pil—have their own ideas on the timing and method of the nomination, and the ruling camp may be facing one of the most serious crises since its formation two years ago.

Kim Yong-sam's faction demands that No, as DLP president, call a national party convention before the general elections in late March. This is widely taken as a bid to clinch Kim's nomination.

DIP co-chairmen Kim Chong-pil and Pak Tae-chun are vehemently against this, insisting on an open and fair nomination procedure.

Party sources say No is not going to throw any light on the presidential nomination during his new year press conference, but Kim Yong-sam is not about to wait.

Kim, they say, will formally propose a party convention when he meets with No, and some of Kim's more aggressive followers have threatened to leave the DLP if their demands are not met.

A new eight-member faction led by Rep. Yi Chong-chan, who is said to have presidential ambitions of his own, met on Dec. 31 and demanded a party convention after the general elections, a ban on any arrangement between No and Kim, and open, fair and free nominating procedures.

The eight, all No loyalists, delivered their message to DLP co-chairman Pak. Sources say Pak fully agreed with them and this development indicates that No's faction is moving to block any deal between its leader and Kim Yong-sam on the presidential nomination. Even if they do compromise, the followers say they will reject it, the sources say.

Party leaders, determined to prevent a split over the nomination, are reportedly considering various possibilities. One is giving Kim Yong-sam more authority in the DLP and rearranging the power structure with him at the center. In return, the convention would be held after the general elections.

"It's true that such proposal was made," Choe Hyong-u, a member of Kim's faction, said. "But we cannot see this as a clearcut nomination, and the proposal may well be changed after the general elections."

## Hyundai Founder Resigns as Honorary Chairman

*SK0301025492 Seoul YONHAP in English 0243 GMT 3 Jan 92*

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 3 (YONHAP)—Chong Chu-yong announced his resignation Friday as honorary chairman of the Hyundai Group "in order to do new business."

In an official ceremony marking the new year with Group executives, Chong said he had quit completely Dec. 31 and would begin a new business this year.

Chong did not say what the new business would be, but Hyundai officials say that they believe the group's 76-year-old founder will not go into business but enter politics.

Reports say that the influential industrialist is preparing to form a political party by mid-January to contest the general elections in late March or April.

With Chong's resignation, the Group will be run by chairman and his brother Chong Se-yong and the presidents of Hyundai subsidiaries.

A reshuffle of Hyundai executives was due for Friday afternoon and will indicate the direction of the Group's management.

## Hyundai Group Executives Reshuffled

*SK0301104592 Seoul YONHAP in English 0823 GMT 3 Jan 92*

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 3 (YONHAP)—Following Chong Chu-yong's surprise announcement Friday morning that he had resigned as honorary chairman of the Hyundai Group, Yi Myong-pak, chairman of Hyundai Construction and Engineering Co., and Yi Nae-hon, president of the firm, announced in the afternoon that they had also quit their jobs Tuesday [31 December].

Yi Myong-pak, a close associate of Chong's, had resigned for personal reasons, a group spokesman said.

It is believed, however, that he intends to contest the spring general elections and help Chong and Yi Nae-hon to establish a political party.

In a reshuffle of group executives to fill the vacancies, Chong Mong-hun, president of Hyundai Electronics Co. and fifth son of the group's owner, was named company chairman.

Chong Hun-mok, also a president of Hyundai Construction, was named chairman to succeed Yi and Vice President Kim Chung-kuk became company president.

Yu Chae-wan, another Hyundai Construction vice president, was named president of Hyundai Electrical Engineering Co. to succeed Kim Chu-yong, who became the president of Hyundai Electronics Co.

The Hyundai empire will be ruled by Chong Chu-yong's brother, group Chairman Chong Se-yong, and the chairmen and presidents of its subsidiaries, who include three of his sons—Mong-ku, chairman of Hyundai Precision and Ind. Co., Mong-kun, chairman of Kumgang Development Co., and Mong-hun, chairman of Hyundai Electronics.

## Poll Shows Majority Dissatisfied With DLP, DP

*SK0301081792 Seoul KYONGHYANG SINMUN in Korean 1 Jan 92 p 1*

[Poll conducted by KYONGHYANG SINMUN in association with Taeryk Institute]

[Text] The majority of our people were found to harbor a deep mistrust for such major political forces as the Democratic Liberal Party [DLP] and the Democratic Party [DP] and 59.9 percent of them feel a new political party is necessary.

According to a political poll of 1,200 citizens over 20 years old across the country conducted by KYONGHYANG SINMUN in association with Taeryuk Institute under the direction of its Chairman Chang Tok-chin, only 13.8 percent of those polled said they favored the ruling DLP and 14.3 percent favored the major opposition party, the DP. It shows that the two parties have, in fact, lost their standing as political representatives of the people.

In particular, only 12.7 percent of those surveyed said they were happy with the two-party system represented by the DLP and the DP, whereas those who said they are unhappy with the two-party system reached 43.7 percent.

The voters' mistrust of these major political parties was expressed in their desire for the appearance of a new political party, with 59.9 percent of those polled saying that they hope for a new political party. This number is more than twice the number of people, 27 percent, who said they were content with the existing political parties.

When asked "Who do you want to be next president?", 12.5 percent of the respondents said they favor DLP Co-chairman Kim Yong-sam, whereas 11.5 percent favored DP President Kim Tae-chung. Although the two Kims ranked first and second as favorable presidential candidates, those who find them favorable were slightly more than 10 percent of those polled.

In particular, 56.2 percent of the respondents said that "a competition between the two Kims is not desirable as it will inevitably deepen the regional rivalry even further." This is roughly six times the respondents, 9.6 percent, who said that the only desirable thing at present is a duel between them.

## Student Leader Sentenced for Attack on Premier

*SK3012073391 Seoul YONHAP in English 0514 GMT 30 Dec 91*

[Text] Seoul, Dec. 30 (YONHAP)—Seoul District Criminal Court sentenced Chong Won-taek, chairman of the Student Council at Hankuk University of Foreign Studies, to three and a half years in prison Monday for assaulting Prime Minister Chong Won-sik in June.

The court sentenced three other students of the university to terms ranging from two years to two and a half years on the same charge.

Student Council Vice Chairman Kim Kyong-ha and three other students were given suspended sentences of three to four years and released.

Of the 18 students indicted for the violence on Chong, a former professor, 10 were sent to jail and eight freed with suspended sentences.

In the June 3 assault, the students threw eggs and flour at Chong after he gave his last lecture before taking up his new appointment as prime minister. They claimed Chong was the "prime culprit" of the alleged oppression of Chonkyocho, an outlawed teachers' organization.

Judge Kang Pyong-sup said an attack by students on a professor old enough to be their grandfather could not be tolerated as it went beyond freedom of expression.

"Although the defendants claim the attack was an expression of political protest, this claim cannot be accepted because a lecture in a classroom is not a political assembly," Kang said.

## Two Students Acquitted of Violating Security Law

*SK0101063092 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 1 Jan 92 p 3*

[Text] Two university students in police detention for violating the National Security Law were released yesterday after prosecutors nullified their arrests, the Seoul District Prosecutor's Office said.

The action was taken in line with the softened enforcement of the security law following an apparent South and North Korea rapprochement since their recent agreement on reconciliation and cooperation.

Choe Hyong, 21, a junior at Seoul National University, and Kim Yong-chi, 20, a junior at Chugye College of Arts, were arrested by police on Nov. 13.

"The two students, not so strongly armed with Marxist-Leninism, showed repentance while in police custody," said a spokesman, explaining the reason for the lenient measure.

Choe and Kim, both members of an outlawed activist student body, took part in propaganda performances in street demonstrations and illegal campus rallies to instigate a proletariat revolution in South Korea, the earlier charges said.

The Collegian Artists League, to which they belong was formed in March 1991 and defined as an antistate student organization.

Under the stiff security law, it constitutes a crime to merely join an antistate body.

According to police, the league is underground body that offers socialist propaganda performances in music and dramas as well as publication of socialist realism literary works.

## Burma

### 600 Karens Flee Border Camps After Attacks

*BK0301020992 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 3 Jan 92 p 2*

[Text] Tak—At least 600 Karen people have fled across the border to Thai villages after Burmese Government forces shelled two Karen rebel camps two days ago, a Border Patrol Police source said.

The source said about 200 Karens have fled from a village near Azin Camp, an advance headquarters of the Karen National Union's 6th Division, located a few kilometres from the Thai-Burmese border opposite Tambon Mae Chan of Umphang District here, after Burmese troops entered the village.

They have sought shelter at Ban Poeng Khloeng, Ban Le Tong Khu and Ban Mae Chan on the Thai side.

Meanwhile, another 400 Karen villagers have fled Ye Gyaw Camp opposite Ban Wang Pha of Mae Ramat District to refugee camps at Ban Huay Kraloke in Mae Sot District and at Ban Dong Pa Khieo in Mae Ramat District.

The source said about 1,000 Burmese troops from three battalions of the 33rd and 44th divisions have been deployed along a 10-kilometre stretch of border from the KNU's Kawmoorah Camp opposite Thailand's Mae Sot District and Ye Gyaw Camp.

The Burmese forces have already fired more than 100 artillery rounds at the two Karen camps since the shelling started two days ago, the source said.

### Border Commander Admits Mistake, Gets Arrested

*BK0301103292 Hong Kong AFP in English 0938 GMT 3 Jan 92*

[Text] Chittagong, Bangladesh, Jan 3 (AFP)—Burmese authorities have arrested a border guard commander who admitted during talks with Bangladeshi officials that his troops had attacked a frontier post in error, a newspaper reported here Friday.

Lieutenant Colonel Yun Yie was arrested and charged with sedition a day after leading a Burmese delegation at talks Tuesday with Bangladeshi officials on the December 21 incident that left four dead, the ISHAN daily said, citing sources across the border.

During seven hours of talks Tuesday with Bangladeshi military officials at a town just inside Burma, Yun Yie admitted the attack on the border post was a "mistake," a Bangladeshi Foreign Ministry official said.

"The Myanmar (Burmese) side acknowledged that the raid on the outpost was carried out by mistake when Myanmar troops were in hot pursuit of Myanmar insurgents," the official said.

Yun Yie reportedly said his troops had crossed over into Bangladesh believing that the outpost was a rebel camp inside Burmese territory.

The raid, which left one border guard and three civilians dead, prompted angry protests from Dhaka.

"The embassy don't [as received] have any such information," a Burmese diplomat here told AFP when asked to comment on the commander's reported arrest.

"We don't think (the report is correct)," the diplomat said, adding that they would have known if it was true since the embassy had radio contact four times a day with Rangoon.

### ROK Official Calls on Trade Minister

*BK0301005292 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese 1330 GMT 2 Jan 92*

[Text] Mr. (Nam Sum Ni), director for West Asian Affairs of the Foreign Ministry of the Republic of Korea, and his delegation currently visiting Myanmar [Burma] called on Brigadier General Abel, minister for trade and for planning and finance, at 1400 today at the Ministry of Trade. The delegation was accompanied by Mr. Kim Hang-Kyong, ROK ambassador to the Union of Myanmar. During the meeting, cordial and frank discussions were held on matters related to the further enhancement of bilateral economic and trade relations.

Present at the meeting were U Maung Maung Kyaw, director general of the Directorate of Trade; U Min Aung, consultant to the Ministry of Planning and Finance; U Maung Maung Han, chairman of the Central Bank of Myanmar; and responsible officials from the Ministry of Trade.

## Cambodia

### Report Views Bush Possibly Lifting Trade Embargo

*BK0301055492 Phnom Penh SPK in English 0404 GMT 3 Jan 92*

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK Jan. 3—In a report from Canberra AFP said U.S. President George Bush is expected to announce the lifting of the American trade embargo imposed on Cambodia in 1975 when in Singapore on Saturday [4 January].

"We fully expect the President to say that in Singapore," the U.S. official said in Canberra Thursday in reference to the embargo.

The move would help the peace process in Cambodia, he said.

The official was part of the entourage accompanying Bush on his 12-day swing through Australia, Singapore, South Korea and Japan. The president leaves Australia for Singapore Friday.

U.S. Secretary of State James Baker indicated in October during Cambodian peace talks in Paris that the United States was ready to lift the embargo it imposed when the Khmer Rouge seized power, after a United Nations presence was established in Phnom Penh under the accords signed in the French capital.

This had now happened, the official noted.

Asked in Canberra about the situation in Cambodia, Bush said : "It is important, with the agreement having come this far, that it be followed up on now, that it not be allowed to fall apart."

The United Nations, which has a small group of observers in Cambodia, is experiencing financial problems in sending a follow-up peacekeeping force.

Any lifting of the U.S. embago would be another in a line of measures taken by Washington to progressively normalise relations with Indochinese nations.

It has started talks with Vietnam and decided to boost its representation in Laos to ambassadorial level.

## Hun Sen: $1.2 Billion in Aid Needed Urgently

*BK0301042092 Hong Kong AFP in English 0415 GMT 3 Jan 92*

[Text] Singapore, Jan 3 (AFP)—Cambodia urgently needs 1.2 billion U.S. dollars to rebuild its economy after 12 years of civil war but has seen little of the promised international aid, Prime Minister Hun Sen said in an interview published Friday.

The lack of solid aid commitments threatened U.N. peacekeeping operations in Cambodia as well as efforts to resettle refugees, he told Singapore's BUSINESS TIMES newspaper.

"I have some worries about this," Hun Sen told a BUSINESS TIMES correspondent in Phnom Penh. "So far we have not received any budget commitment for the reconstruction of Cambodia.

"So the operations of the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia will face the problem of a lack of money."

The Phnom Penh government, installed by Vietnamese forces in 1979, signed a peace treaty in October with the three rival factions under an internationally brokered plan that envisioned massive reconstruction aid.

Hun Sen said government planners put Cambodia's immediate needs at 1.2 billion U.S. dollars to rebuild the infrastructure of the war-ravaged Indochinese state, with every sector lacking financing.

Agriculture, which supports 90 per cent of Cambodia, is the first priority followed by roads and bridges, telecommunications and the development of electricity and fuel supplies, the prime minister said.

Despite pledges of assistance, a "number of projects are only on paper," Hun Sen told the BUSINESS TIMES. He said just three countries have provided concrete assistance: France, Thailand and Japan.

France has helped restore power and water supplies in Phnom Penh, Thailand has pledged to rebuild border roads and take part in other projects, and Japan is discussing reconstruction of the blown-up bridge across the Tonle Sap River.

Cambodia is also counting on aid from India and humanitarian assistance from Australia, Hun Sen said. He added that, overall, private sector investments would be crucial to the country's recovery.

Hun Sen said Cambodia needed a large amount of money to resettle Cambodian refugees currently housed in camps in Thailand, "but so far only a small amount has been made available."

In one good piece of news for Phnom Penh, a U.S. official said President George Bush, who is visiting Singapore this weekend, would likely announce the lifting of the U.S. trade embargo imposed on Cambodia in 1975.

## Red Cross Refuses To Supervise Prisoner Release

### Calls Offer 'Pure Propaganda'

*BK0301080092 Hong Kong AFP in English 0742 GMT 3 Jan 92*

[By Sheri Prasso]

[Text] Phnom Penh, Jan 3 (AFP)—The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) said Friday it would not supervise this weekend's release of 400 political prisoners, accusing the Phnom Penh government of violating the peace accord.

"This is a show, a pure propaganda piece," said Jean-Jacques Fresard, the head of ICRC operations in Cambodia. "It is not enough to blow a whistle 48 hours beforehand and expect us to be there."

The ICRC is in charge of directing the release of Cambodian political prisoners and prisoners of war, as outlined in the peace treaty signed in October to end the nearly 13-year civil war.

The ICRC has strict rules regarding its monitoring of political detainees and prisoners of war, and it's an all-or-nothing situation.

"Just to be invited to watch their release is a useless exercise as far as we're concerned. It's also a violation of the peace agreement," he said.

The head of the U.N. advance mission in Cambodia, Ataul Karim, also declined a written invitation to attend the releases.

Fresard said he would ask the five permanent members in the U.N. Security Council to take action on the issue, because the other previously warring factions were refusing to cooperate with the ICRC as well.

"The situation is exactly the same with the other three factions" with FUNCINPEC [National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful and Cooperative Cambodia] and the faction loyal to Son Sann claiming they have no prisoners, and the Khmer Rouge making vague statements, Fresard said.

The Geneva-based organization must have access to all prisoners to be able to repeat visits regularly, have unsupervised interviews with prisoners and be able to record names and full identification.

If any government does not agree to these conditions, Fresard said, the ICRC will not visit any prisons.

It has never visited a prison in Cambodia.

"We have no idea today who has been released and who is still in prison," he said.

Experience has shown that if the ICRC lets a government direct which prisoners and detention facilities it should see, authorities will always create a "model" prison with well-fed prisoners and keep its abuses hidden, Fresard said.

The Phnom Penh Government has offered to let the ICRC visit only three prisons containing roughly 800 detainees of interest to the organization, he said.

The Phnom Penh Foreign Ministry announced Thursday it would release 400 prisoners, among them political detainees, from two city prisons and a third in Kompong Cham, 125 kilometers (80 miles) north of here.

Because the ICRC does not know the names of those in detention, "you cannot even be sure they won't be rearrested 48 hours later," Fresard said.

The precise number of detainees is not known.

Interior ministry officials told ICRC representatives on December 11 that 1,260 political detainees and prisoners of war were in jail. But at another meeting December 21, they said 814 people were being held.

The government has said through its official news agency SPK that 1,034 people have been released since the peace treaty was signed in October.

The ICRC was not called to monitor those releases.

Many of those being held are suspected of having sympathized or collaborated with members of the other factions that fought Phnom Penh in the civil war.

Factions leaders such as Son Sann have made constant pleas for the release of their loyalists from Phnom Penh's prisons.

## Release Cancelled

*BK0301102592 Hong Kong AFP in English 1014 GMT 3 Jan 92*

[By Sheri Prasso]

[Excerpt] Phnom Penh, Jan 3 (AFP)—The Phnom Penh government cancelled Friday the release of 400 political prisoners after the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) called it a propaganda show and refused to take part.

The government was to have released 400 detainees over the weekend, among them political prisoners and POWs, but called off the event after the ICRC and the head of the U.N. advance mission threatened a boycott. [passage omitted]

## Military Leaders Agree To Rotate Venues

*BK0301051692 Phnom Penh SPK in English 0408 GMT 3 Jan 92*

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK Jan. 3—The top brass of Cambodia's formerly warring factions agreed Thursday to meet weekly in one another's headquarters, AFP quoted the leader to the United Nations military mission as saying here Thursday.

The four agreed to shift their meeting places routinely to include such places as Pailin, the headquaters of the Khmer Rouge, General Michel Loridon said.

While the idea poses logistical problems, "they agreed in principle," he said.

The four also agreed to allow one representative of each faction to be based in their respective headquarters along with UN military officers, Loridon said.

Meanwhile, the general said the UN Security Council in a meeting this week would expand his mandate to allow more military officers to oversee the ceasefire.

Although the ceasefire appears to be holding in areas under UN supervision, he said, "the problem is in the rest of the country we are not there."

Loridon said the faction leaders were trying to adhere to the ceasefire, but had some discipline problems with rebel soldiers turning into bandits.

"I requested that we have a real ceasefire from the 1st of January. I said you have to give orders to your soldiers not to move now, and not to have military activities," Loridon said. "I hope it is true. We will have to wait and see."

Thirty-three UN liaison officers are currently deployed in the four faction headquaters and the provinces of Siem Reap and Battambang. Another 17 are stationed in Phnom Penh.

"I know there were a lot of incidents before the 15th of December," Loridon said. "Since the 15th of December, incidents were quite null in the country. The presence of the military liaison officers is a good thing."

### Ranariddh: Leaders Should Stay in Phnom Penh

*BK0301044992 Phnom Penh SPK in English 0413 GMT 3 Jan 92*

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK Jan. 3—Khmer Rouge Leader Khieu Samphan left Phnom Penh after the first meeting of Cambodia's SNC [Supreme National Council] because he was frightened, the leader of another Cambodian faction said in an interview published in Bangkok Monday [as received].

Prince Norodom Ranariddh, head of a faction loyal to his father, Prince Norodom Sihanouk, told the English-language BANGKOK POST that Khieu Samphan "is so frightened (in Phnom Penh) he did not accept my father's suggestion that the SNC meet in a regular weekly session."

The SNC, or Supreme National Council, groups representatives of Cambodia's four main factions, including the Phnom Penh Government and the Khmer Rouge, represented by Khieu Samphan and its guerrilla force chief, Son Sen.

Shortly after arriving back in Cambodia for the first time in several years, Khieu Samphan was forced to flee back to Thailand with Son Sen after he was attacked by a mob angered at memories of Khmer Rouge atrocities during their near-four year rule over the country until ousted in 1979.

He returned to Phnom Penh again Monday to take part in an SNC meeting, but left for Bangkok the following day.

Son Sen stayed away, and no explanation has been given for his absence.

According to Prince Ranariddh, it was uncertain whether Khieu Samphan would be back in Phnom Penh for the next SNC meeting scheduled for January 10.

"We cannot really work this way because all the SNC members have to be here together and work out informally among themselves how to resolve the remaining serious problems," Prince Ranariddh said in his interview with the BANGKOK POST.

Under the October peace agreement, the United Nations is to supervise elections in Cambodia in early 1993.

The Khmer Rouge, meanwhile, has called on the UN Advance Mission in Cambodia (UNAMIC) to set up offices to which military officers of all factions would also be attached in key Cambodian provincial areas.

UNAMIC, which has been sent to Cambodia to prepare for the deployment of the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC), has offices or missions in Phnom Penh, Battambang, and at military headquaters of the three guerrilla factions located near Thailand's border.

### Students Stage Anticorruption Protest 28 Dec

*BK0301004692 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 2 Jan 92*

[Text] According to informed sources in the provincial town of Siem Reap, inhabitants and students at Phsar Leu in the town staged a demonstration on 28 December 1991 to oppose the corruption practiced by the Vietnamese aggressor officials there.

The report added that the demonstration broke out because the people and students were furious with the corrupt officials of the Vietnamese aggressors' state authority there who have plundered the national natural resources for their personal interests and have embezzled taxes levied on the people to line their own pockets without thinking of improving or developing the province and town in the least. Besides, those officials have continued to oppress and suppress the people, too.

### Columnist Views Recent Violence, Corruption

*BK2812033091 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 28 Dec 91 p 5*

["Kampuchean Diary" Article by Jacques Bakaert entitled: "Vox Populi"]

[Text] "The population of Phnom Penh is right to demonstrate. We admire the courage of the people and they deserve our support. They are the vanguard of national conscience, right in the middle of our nation." So wrote Mr Sam Rainsy, in an open letter to his Khmer compatriots living abroad.

A soft spoken intellectual and former editor of SEREIKA, an influential newsletter published for years in France, Mr Sam Rainsy is not a radical. But he was horrified by what he saw in Phnom Penh. Not by the demonstrations, but by the corruption and disregard for the common good he found among many Cambodian leaders.

Were the demonstrations against corrupt officials in central Phnom Penh last week organised, or were they spontaneous? It is probable that what happened to the Khmer Rouge leadership a few weeks ago gave a lot of people the idea that it was now safe to publicly express their feelings which had been suppressed for too long. It is also probable that popular anger had reached boiling point. Some of the demonstrations were directed at individuals, notably Transport and Communication Minister Ros Chhun, a former ambassador to East Germany. The ministry had long been considered a good place to make fast money.

Corruption is not a new issue in Cambodia, of course. While Sihanouk himself has never been accused of corruption, many officials and members of his entourage in the Fifties and Sixties were seen with little affection by the population. Things got worse during the Lon Nol years and it is significant that so many people are now comparing the present situation in Cambodia to that of the early Seventies which led to the collapse of the republic and the victory of the Khmer Rouge.

As soon as the economy was liberalised in 1988, scores of officials of the ruling People's Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea and of the state apparatus took advantage of their positions to amass large amounts of money and property. In the provinces it was frequent to see senior civil servants and military officials spend hours in restaurants, consuming a large amount of expensive French cognac or foreign beer in full view of the general public.

A senior official of Kompong Speu Province told us three years ago that corruption among party officials was in the long run more dangerous to the country than the Khmer Rouge. Corrupt party officials sometimes threatened to kill honest cadres who wanted to report them. In August 1990 a special plenum of the People's Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea decided to intensify the struggle against corruption. It was clear by then that the image of the party was so bad among the population that something had to be done.

A few provincial cadres lost their jobs and a few merchants in Phnom Penh were forced to dismantle the constructions they had illegally built on the sidewalks.

But in the end there was very little change except that Mr Chea Sim was able to use the campaign to replace some of Mr Hun Sen's supporters with cadres closer to him. Some of the root causes of corruption—the low salaries and political rigidity of the system—were kept intact.

A couple of months earlier Khieu Kanarith, the editor of KAMPUCHEA, the only newspaper that enjoyed some real readership because it denounced corruption, had been sacked. Foreign journalists who wrote about corruption in high places were told to watch their words or they would not receive new visas in the future. The correspondent of a Bangkok-based newspaper was given only a few hours to get out of the country after writing about corruption in Mr Hun Sen's family. And I myself have been told repeatedly to avoid what one government official called "the forbidden subjects"—corruption, misdeeds of senior officials and their families, and use of funds collected at Buddhist religious ceremonies for military purposes.

"You are an intelligent man, Mr Bekaert," a senior official told me only a few months ago in Phnom Penh. "You should know better what to write and what to avoid." Only a few months ago, some of the people who had talked to me were interrogated by security officers.

As the prospect of peace and free elections approached some senior party members and government officials started selling state properties for personal gain. Never before had the ruling party been so unpopular.

Honest cadres—and there are quite a few—were desperate and hoped that Prince Sihanouk would react against what they called the selling of the nation. Prince Sihanouk is certainly aware of the amount of corruption and the danger it represents, as he told us during a private meeting in Phatthaya. "It is the best chance of the Khmer Rouge," he said. But many in Cambodia were disappointed when the prince started praising the ruling party after his return to Cambodia. Anxious not to be accused of corruption himself, the prince made clear he wanted nothing to do with business.

On the 27th of November, at Mr Hun Sen's special request, the prince agreed that all aid and communications from the Asian Development Bank should go directly to the Ministry of Planning. "If you want to do business talk to the government" was Sihanouk's answer to those who tried to contact him in order to facilitate their business deals.

The prince is right to stay away from the commercial side of things, but this was exactly what the government wanted to hear. The vast majority of Cambodians would certainly be grateful if the prince, the only moral authority in the country, says loud and clear what he thinks of current practices.

The recent sacking of Mr Ros Chhun, a member of the Central Committee of the ruling Pracheachon Party, will not satisfy the demonstrators. Corruption has touched every aspect of life in Cambodia, from the university (especially the Medical School) to hospitals, the police and the army. It is not by chance that many students of the Medical School were among the demonstrators. The price for degrees and diplomas kept going up. As a result, a lot of students managed to become "doctors" even though they had neither the knowledge nor proper training.

Only a few months ago a Cambodian friend asked me for some money to "make a gift" for a senior health official. Otherwise, he explained, the chances of his entering the Medical School were "less than zero."

A few sources in Phnom Penh claimed that the army was partly behind the recent demonstrations. Nobody believes that the Khmer Rouge had anything to do with what happened in the Cambodian capital last week. The more corrupt the system, the better prospect for the Partie of Democratic Kampuchea. As Prince Sihanouk has said, the Khmer Rouge only have to wait for the rotten fruit to fall into their hands.

There is no secret that some segments of the Cambodian People's Armed Forces (CPAF) are less than happy with several points of the peace agreement. While a few senior officers made money out of the war, others (especially those trained in the USSR, Vietnam or Eastern Europe) looked angrily at the way politically appointed generals behaved. How many highranking officers are interested in the well-being of their men?

A few generals, including CPAF Commander-in-Chief Pol Saroeun, are popular with the rank and file. But soldiers know that they have little future, that the authorities have planned very little for the troops that sooner or later will be demobilised. Land that was given to soldiers and militiamen a couple of years ago in compensation for their service is now sold to foreigners. And the Ministry of Defence is usually considered another "golden pond." Even mlitary barracks have been sold. Understandably, many soldiers felt some sympathy for the demonstrators.

It was suggested that some "armed elements" or some "evil manipulative force" might have been behind the demonstrations. But it is not the demonstrators who should be blamed. They protested against the greatest danger now threatening the Cambodian nation: The selling of her soil and soul. Many individuals in Phnom Penh have already declared that these "contracts" and sales should not be recognised by the next government.

Cambodia is a "lawless country, devoured by corruption, totally irresponsible, where anything goes," wrote Sam Rainsy in his open letter.

Of course it would be good if the UN could send personnel and soldiers as soon as possible. But it is not the job or the responsibility of the UN to deal with corruption. Only the Cambodian people can do it. And last week they showed the world that they won't let their country be sold by a group of officials who, in many other countries, would probably be in jail for their actions.

### Sihanouk Sends New Year Greetings to Mitterrand

*BK0201055692 Phnom Penh SPK in English 0428 GMT 2 Jan 92*

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK January 2—Cambodia's Prince Norodom Sihanouk has sent a new year's message of thanks to French President Francois Mitterrand, who has also reiterated Paris's support for the Supreme National Council (SNC) leader.

"I am immensely encouraged by the esteem and support that France and its president accord me with such benevolence," said the letter dated December 31.

Prince Sihanouk also said he was greatly encouraged "by the beneficial actions that our French friends have brought to Cambodia in order to help us carry out peace, national unity, and national rehabilitation and reconstruction."

France, as one of the five permanent members of the UN Security Council, has played a large part in the peace settlement in Cambodia.

It hosted the October 23 conference at which the peace treaty ending nearly 13 years of civil war was signed.

France has set up cultural and language-teaching facilities. French entrepreneurs are active in developing investments in Cambodia.

France was among the first to establish diplomatic representation to the SNC, and it has sent a large military contingent to the UN Advance Mission here.

### Mitterrand Assures French Support

*BK0201055892 Phnom Penh SPK in English 0432 GMT 2 Jan 92*

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK January 2—French President Francois Mitterrand has assured Prince Norodom Sihanouk, president of Cambodia's Supreme National Council (SNC), of France's support in a message made public in Bangkok Wednesday, reported AFP.

"Please be assured that France supports your action," Mitterrand wrote to Prince Sihanouk in a message released by the Prince's representatives in the Thai capital.

The SNC is made up of representatives of the Phnom Penh Government and its former foes, a loose coalition of three guerrilla groups, all of whom signed a peace treaty in Paris on October 23 ending nearly 13 years of civil war.

The five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council, including France, have played a leading role in brokering the peace treaty and are expected to continue to play a major role in its implementation.

### Prince Ranariddh Gives 1992 New Year Message

*BK0301091192 (Clandestine) Voice of the Khmer in Cambodian 0430 GMT 3 Jan 92*

[Message by Prince Norodom Ranariddh—supreme commander of the National Army of Independent Cambodia; secretary general of the National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia; and member of the Supreme National Council of Cambodia—to Buddhist monks and Cambodian compatriots on the 1992 new year; in Phnom Penh on 31 December—recorded]

[Text] I, Norodom Ranariddh—secretary general of the National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia [FUNCINPEC]; supreme commander of the National Army of Independent Cambodia; and member of the Supreme National Council of Cambodia [SNC]—pay my respects to all Buddhist monks and highest salutations to all brothers, sisters, uncles, aunts, grandmas, grandpas, and Cambodian fighters, both military and civilian, in the zone under the protection of our movement as well as in other regions throughout Cambodia.

On the occasion of the new year of 1992, I pray to the triple jewels of Buddhism, to all gods protecting the throne, to all deities protecting the land and water of Cambodia, and especially to all the angels of the new year to bring blessings to all of you.

May Buddhism develop steadily so that it will become an oasis for the Cambodian people and for the people the world over who cherish peace.

May every Buddhist monk and may all esteemed citizens, men and women, young and old alike, enjoy peace and prosperity and have good health, a long life, and success in all their undertakings, and may all their wishes be fulfilled.

I take the opportunity of this most propitious occasion to express most powerful admiration for the sacrifices of the Cambodian fighters who consented to give up their lives for peace in our beloved Cambodia. All of us Sihanoukists have held that the success of our struggle is the personal great achievement of our venerated Samdech Euv [Prince Father]. For a long, long time, within the framework of FUNCINPEC, we Sihanoukists have followed Samdech Preah Norodom Sihanouk, the samdech head of state, the samdech chairman of the SNC, in the royal crusade for peace for Cambodia until a concrete success was achieved with the Cambodian peace agreement signed in Paris on 23 October 1991.

Under the leadership of Samdech Preah Norodom Sihanouk, the samdech head of state and chairman of the SNC, the implementation of that agreement is proceeding nicely. Our venerated Samdech Euv has rallied Cambodians of all tendencies into a grand reconciliation to bring an end to the suffering of all our Cambodian people. The success of the implementation of this Cambodian peace agreement rests, in fact, in the the close cooperation of the SNC, of which Samdech Preah Norodom Sihabnouk is chairman, and the five permanent members of the UN Security Council.

The first meeting of the SNC held under the chairmanship of our Samdech Euv in Phnom Penh on 30 December 1991—a meeting that I also personally attended—wound up successfully beyond expectation. Soon, the special representative of the UN secretary general and the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia, or UNTAC, will come to Cambodia to implement this peace agreement in accordance with my statement dated 27 December 1991.

In that statement, I unconditionally supported the declaration of our venerated Samdech Euv and earnestly begged that the UN Secretary General dispatch his special envoy to Cambodia as soon as possible. Our movement has energetically stated that it would defend social justices in line with liberal democracy and voiced an unequivocal support for human rights. All citizens must have the right to live without fear and free from coercion. Our movement has earnestly requested that Amnesty International and the International Committee of the Red Cross set up their offices in Phnom Penh or in any other place they deem necessary to protect human rights.

Our hopes in 1992 are the concretization of Samdech Euv's efforts in consolidating peace through national reconciliation and reunion that would lead toward social stability. It is this stability that brings about the possibility for free elections to be held in 1993.

In conclusion, I pray that the new year will help strengthen peace in Cambodia so that all esteemed and beloved Cambodian people can live happily and prosper forever.
[Dated] 31 December 1991, Phnom Penh
[Signed] Norodom Ranariddh

## SRV Troops Said Still Active in Cambodia

*BK0301035992 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 2 Jan 92*

[Unattributed commentary: "What Is the Key Issue in Cambodia Now?"]

[Text] According to politicians inside and outside the country and based on the concrete situation on the Cambodian battlefield, the key issue in Cambodia remains the problem of Vietnamese forces. Vietnamese forces continue to be active in Cambodia, including in rural areas and Phnom Penh. The Vietnamese aggressors, who are instigators, continue to launch attacks on resistance forces, force the people to serve in the Army, shoot the people to death, and forbid the people from earning a living. Moreover, they have colluded with a number of foreign alliances to carry out all manner of maneuvers to ruin the Supreme National Council [SNC] chaired by Head of State Samdech Norodom Sihanouk by preventing its operation. And they have maneuvered to destroy the accord to end the Vietnamese war of aggression against Cambodia by hindering implementation of the accord.

What is the appropriate approach to a settlement of the Vietnamese war of aggression in Cambodia?

The Paris 23 October 1991 accord for ending the Vietnamese war of aggression against Cambodia via a comprehensive political solution clearly stipulates that there should be two transitional authorities, namely, the SNC chaired by Head of State Samdech Norodom Sihanouk and the UNTAC [UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia] in Cambodia joining forces to execute the accord. Neither the SNC nor the UNTAC can work alone. As such, to resolve the issue of the withdrawal of Vietnamese aggressor forces from Cambodia, the UNTAC should, in conjunction with the SNC chaired by Head of State Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, verify the withdrawal of all categories of Vietnamese forces from Cambodia.

Only after a complete withdrawal of Vietnamese aggressor forces from the country can we:
1. Definitely implement the cease-fire agreement in Cambodia;
2. Restore peace in an independent Cambodia;
3. Achieve national reconciliation, compromise, and reunification among the four Cambodian parties and all the Cambodians; and

4. Stabilize the political situation and environment for organizing elections in Cambodia.

### Russia Prepared To Deploy U.N. Force

*BK0301065092 Phnom Penh SPK in French 0404 GMT 3 Jan 92*

[Quotation marks as received]

[Text] Phnom Penh 3 Jan (SPK)—Russia is prepared, if necessary, to take part in an "immediate" deployment of the UN peacekeeping force in Cambodia, the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs announced in a communique published by TASS.

Russia profoundly deplores recent "disorders" in Phnom Penh and calls for "the immediate deployment of the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia [UNTAC] in the country," which is scheduled for next spring, according to the communique. "Russia, for its part, is prepared to take part with other states concerned," wrote the Russian Foreign Ministry in its communique cited by AFP.

"UN operations in Cambodia must be carried out with strict respect to the spirit and the letter of the Paris peace accord. Recent events show the necessity to immediately put UNTAC in place, if possible at the beginning of 1992," the communique added.

### Solarz Pays Courtesy Call on Sihanouk 1 Jan

*BK0201135292 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1300 GMT 2 Jan 92*

[Text] Stephen Solarz, U.S. representative and chairman of the House of Representatives' Asia-Pacific Affairs Subcommittee, paid a courtesy call to Samdech Preah Norodom Sihanouk, head of state and chairman of the Supreme National Council of Cambodia [SNC], at the Khemarin Pavilion on the morning of 1 January.

Stephen Solarz has visited Cambodia four times since 1981. During the current visit, he intended to learn more about the outcome of the first SNC meeting in Phnom Penh since the Paris peace agreement was signed.

On that occasion, Samdech Preah Norodom Sihanouk said that he admired and deeply thanked Stephen Solarz and the U.S. Government and Congress for contributing to the acceleration of the peace process in Cambodia and for bringing this process to the current stage. He also stressed that the outcome of the SNC meeting showed the optimism of all concerned toward national reconciliation.

Stephen Solarz said he was firmly confident in the samdech's wise royal mission to bring about national reconciliation and said that Cambodia and its people will soon recover peace and develop.

### Urges Early UNTAC Presence

*BK0301015092 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 2 Jan 92*

[Text] Upon his arrival in Cambodia on 1 January for a two-day visit, U.S. Congressman Stephan Solarz said the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia [UNTAC] has to be dispatched to the country at the earliest date.

Mr. Solarz's statement is evidence of U.S. politicians' concern over the implementation of the Paris accord. Mr. Solarz's remark shows that without the presence of the UNTAC in Cambodia, the execution of the Paris accord for Cambodia cannot be operative. This was why Mr. Solarz earnestly demanded that the UNTAC be urgently dispatched to Cambodia to enable the Supreme National Council chaired by Cambodian Head of State Samdech Norodom Sihanouk and the UNTAC to jointly speed up the implementation of the Paris accord.

### UNAMIC Activities in Pailin Discussed

*BK2212023291 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 21 Dec 91*

[Text] On 18 December, a team of the UN Advance Mission in Cambodia [UNAMIC] arrived in Pailin District of Battambang Province. This 11-man team is led by Ataul Karim, chief of the UNAMIC.

Representatives of the Democratic Kampuchea [DK] side warmly welcomed the team. Ataul Karim expressed his joy and praised the DK representatives' reception for him.

The two sides discussed cooperation in implementing the Paris agreement dated 23 October 1991. The discussion proceeded in a warm and cordial atmosphere permeated with spirit of cooperation.

According to UN sources, on 22 December 1991, Lieutenant Colonel (Valses Malik) will lead an eight-man UNAMIC team to a station in Pailin.

The UNAMIC team's presence in Pailin is to cooperate with the Supreme National Council in implementing the 23 October Paris agreement.

### Prince Chakkrapong, Sin Song Tour Prey Veng

*BK2412101191 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 0430 GMT 24 Dec 91*

[Text] Prince Norodom Chakkrapong, adviser to the chairman of the Council of Ministers of the State of Cambodia, and his wife in company of General Sin Song, Standing Committee member of the Cambodian People's Party [CPP] Central Committee and minister of the interior, paid a visit to Peam Chor District, Prey Veng Province, on 17 December.

On hand to greet the visit of Prince Norodom Chakkrapong were Mr. Yut Phuthang, member of the CPP Central Committee and chairman of the Party Committee and People's Committee of Prey Veng Province, and several heads and deputy heads of various offices of the province.

The members of the Party Committee and People's Committee and the masses of Peam Chor District expressed warmest welcome to Prince Norodom Chakkrapong on his visit to their locality. Prince Norodom Chakkrapong expressed heartfelt emotions at being massively and warmly greeted by the people from all walks of life in Peam Chor District. He said that was a most precious and first opportunity for him to visit Prey Veng Province. The prince also praised the all-around development in Peam Chor District and the great achievements made by the local authorities and population over the past 13 years.

### KPNLF Military Wing To Run in 1993 Elections

*BK2812031291 Bangkok THE NATION in English 28 Dec 91 p A2*

[Text] Banteay Meanchey, Cambodia—The military wing of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front (KPNLF) has officially declared it will contend in the 1993 general election in Cambodia under the banner of its newly-formed political party, its commander in chief said.

Gen Sak Sutsakhan, commander in chief of the Khmer People's National Liberation Armed Forces (KPNLAF) stopped short of saying whether its political leader, Son Sann, would join the new party. "Son Sann can set up his own political party as allowed in the Oct 23 peace agreement," Sak told a small group of Thai reporters at his headquarters in Banteay Meanrit after the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP)'s two-day meeting on Thursday.

Sak, the party's president, said he was confident that his party would win a majority of votes in the upcoming election, saying that the current political situation inside Cambodia would favour his party.

Sak said his party could offer a new alternative for Cambodian people who had been suffering under one politically-oppressive regime after another. "We are confident that we will win the majority because we have learned that people want new faces to bring them real democracy and freedom," Sak explained.

Than Pok, the executive director of Cambodians in the United States, who also attended the meeting, added that the eroding popularity of Prince Sihanouk and Hun Sen gave rise to the hope that the LDP would emerge the winner in the election.

Than Pok said the newly-formed alliance between Sihanouk and Hun Sen would result in a decline in Sihanouk's popularity as he would come to be considered guilty by association in allegations of widespread corruption in Phnom Penh. Sihanouk and Hun Sen agreed to team up in preparation for the election soon after Sihanouk returned to Phnom Penh in November.

He also cited recent demonstations against what is seen as rampant corruption in Phnom Penh as clear indication of the waning support of the public for the regime.

Gen Sak also claimed that his party now has more than 10,000 members, residing in Cambodia, Thailand's Site Two refugee camps, and in other countries such as the United states, Canada, Belgium Germany and Australia.

Sak denied that the LDP was born out of a rift between the military and the political wing of the KPNLF. "The party was formed out of the will of people," he said.

Sak also ruled out the possibility of seeking representation in the 12-member Supreme National Council (SNC), saying, "it is too late". The KPNLF holds two seats, both filled by members of its political wing, in the council.

Son Sann had relied on Sak's forces, until the cease-fire was implemented, to fight guerrilla war, along with the other two resistance armies of Sihanouk and the Khmer Rouge, to topple the Phnom Penh regime.

Son Sann and Sak both served under Sihanouk's former government, as Prime Minister and Defence Minister respectively.

"Representation in the SNC is no longer our interest. The SNC is responsible for the external affairs of Cambodia. But inside Cambodia, we have to address people's needs," Sak said.

## Indonesia

### Honorary Council Created on Dili Incident

*BK0201125892 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 1200 GMT 2 Jan 92*

[Text] Army Chief of Staff General Edi Sudrajat inaugurated the Honorary Military Council to probe the Dili incident at the General Headquarters of the Indonesian Army in Jakarta today. Brigadier General B. Hartadi, head of the Public Relations Service of the Indonesian Army, told a press conference that the Honorary Military Council, as a manifestation of an 8 December instruction from President Suharto as supreme commander of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Indonesia [ABRI], is designed to learn a lesson from the incident for the sake of the development of the ABRI, especially its younger members, prevent a recurrence of the 12 November Dili incident, and face other tasks in which absolute truth is needed.

The Honorary Military Council comprises Major General Faisal Tanjung as chairman; Maj. Gen. Setyana as deputy chairman; Maj. Gen. Tony Hartono as secretary and a member; Maj. Gen. R. Sunardi, Maj. Gen. Sutopo, Maj. Gen. Suparman Ahmad, and Maj. Gen. Suryadi Sudirja as members, and Maj. Gen. Suwardi and Maj. Sutejo as reserve members.

The council also has the duty to conduct a deeper study on the policies and measures of the East Timor Security Operational Command and the 9th Udayana Military Region Command in handling the 12 November Dili incident.

### Alatas on ASEAN Summit, SRV Continental Shelf

*BK0201092192 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 0600 GMT 2 Jan 92*

[Text] Foreign Minister Ali Alatas says that the environment will be an important topic of discussions during the fourth ASEAN summit in Singapore at the end of this month. Speaking to newsmen after calling on President Suharto at the latter's residence on Cendana Street in Jakarta this morning, Minister Ali Alatas said that the environment had already become an international issue and there were even trends in certain developed nations toward linking the matter with economic cooperation.

Regarding problems with Vietnam, particularly the sea boundary, Minister Ali Alatas said that the latter involved the steps necessary to delineate the continental shelf. [Alatas recording indistinct]

Foreign Minister Ali Alatas also reported to President Suharto on preparations being made by Indonesia for the 10th nonaligned summit in Jakarta.

### 1991 Domestic, Foreign Investments Reviewed

*BK0201103392 Jakarta THE JAKARTA POST in English 24 Dec 92 p 1*

[Text] Jakarta (JP)—Domestic investment commitments affected by the government's tight money policy declined substantially this year, while foreign commitments decreased only slightly, says chairman of the Investment Coordinating Board (BKPM).

Sanyoto Sastrowardoyo told a press conference here yesterday that the tight money policy, which was introduced early last year to curb inflation, caused domestic investment commitments for the establishment of projects in non-oil and non-financial sectors to fall by 33.6 percent to only Rp. 39.75 trillion (U.S. $20.03 billion) this year (as of Dec. 15) from Rp. 59.87 trillion in 1990.

"The impacts of the policy have forced investors to be more selective in arranging their investment plans, particularly those related to sectors of businesses and the use of credit facilities," he said.

Despite the fall, however, domestic and foreign commitments approved this year almost doubled those registered in 1989, when domestic commitments reached only Rp. 19.59 trillion and foreign commitments $4.71 billion, he said.

Sanyoto expressed confidence that the investment interest would recover next year because the government would gradually ease the current money squeeze.

"The prospect of investment in Indoensia will remain bright due to the appreciation of a number of major currencies, including yen, won, and Taiwanese dollar against the U.S. dollar, the abolishment of the Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) facilities by the U.S. for Asia's newly industrialized countries (NICs) and the increases in production costs in the NICs," he said.

Sanyoto said foreign commitments declined only by 4.2 percent to $8.4 billion this year from $8.75 billion in 1990, bringing the cumulative foreign investment commitments since 1967 to 47.79 billion for the establishment of 2,148 projects as of Dec. 15.

Taiwan this year has taken over Japan's role as the largest single investing country in Indonesia with total commitments of $1.05 billion (for the establishment of 57 projects), followed by Japan with $837.1 million (75 projects), Britain with $378 million (14 projects), Singapore with $341 million (41 projects), Switzerland with $307.9 million (six projects), South Korea with $290.3 million (53 projects), and the United States with $258.5 million (25 projects).

However, Japan cumulatively remained to be the largest single investing country in the period between 1967 and 1991 with total commitments of $11.15 billion (for the establishment of 466 projects), followed by Hong Kong with $4.19 billion (202 projects), Taiwan with $3.37 billion (227 projects), the United Staes with $2.49 billion (133 projects), South Korea with $2.216 billion (252 projects), the Netherlands with $2.13 billion (89 projects), Germany with $1.80 billion (49 projects), and Singapore $1.57 billion (147 projects).

Sanyoto said the hotel industry was apparently the most attractive sector to foreign investors.

"A total of $3.86 billion or 46.1 percent of this year's foreign investment commitments will be used to build 12 hotels," he said, adding that 10.6 percent was committed for the establishment of 52 chemical projects and 9,8 percent for paper plants," he said.

Sanyoto said that 21.1 percent of this year's total domestic investment commitments would be used to establish 80 chemical project worth Rp. 8.4 trillion, 14.1 percent to build 33 trillion and 9.5 percent to build 59 hotels worth Rp. 3.76 trillion.

"Out of the 765 domestic investment projects licensed by the government this year, 33.1 percent will be established in West Java, 9.7 percent in East Java, nine percent in Central Java, 8.5 percent in Jakarta, and the remaining on islands other than Java," he said.

He said that cumulative domestic investment commitments (excluding those licensed by technical ministries) since 1967 reached Rp. 186.89 trillion for the establishment of 7.459 projects as of Dec. 15.

Out of these cumulative commitments, Rp. 44.8 trillion had been implemented for the establishment of 4.910 projects involving employment of 1.61 million local workers and 4,109 expatriates, he said.

He reminded, however, that the government would maintain its policy of revoking licenses of project whose sponsors failed to start constructing them within three years in spite of the tight money policy and said that 325 licenses involving investment commitments of Rp. 7.9 trillion were revoked this year alone.

### Radio Views President Bush's Asia Tour

*BK0101075492 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 0000 GMT 1 Jan 92*

[Station commentary]

[Text] U.S. President George Bush left Washington on Monday to begin a two-week tour of Australia, Singapore, South Korea, and Japan. The Asia tour was originally scheduled for last November to ensure U.S. influence in the Pacific. Events in the Middle East and Eastern Europe, the collapse of the Soviet Union, and the White House's plan to reduce its military presence in Asia do not mean that the United States will decrease its attention to this region. Meanwhile, the U.S. President's announcement that he will not cancel the Asian tour has invited criticism within the U.S. itself.

President Bush has been criticized for paying too much attention to foreign affairs and too little attention to domestic affairs, especially the worsening shortage of job opportunities. This is despite the fact that the country will soon have a presidential election in 1992. The November election will decide whether President Bush will serve a second term as president.

Therefore, the Asian tour this time carries a slightly different objective. Shortly before leaving Washington, he said to the American people that the objective of his Asian tour, which includes Australia—a country of self-proclaimed non-Asian Asians—is aimed at nothing other than creating new job opportunities. Therefore, observers in Washington describe his Asian tour as an economic instead of a political one. It is not surprising that the U.S. president is accompanied by Robert Aiken, chairman of General Motors Corporation, who announced in early December the laying off of 40,000 workers and closure of 21 plants.

The U.S. President's toughest time will be when he arrives in Japan at the end of next month [as heard] and has to deal with the worsening trade deficit with Tokyo. Only if the tour is successful will the U.S. President be able to cope with the issue of domestic unemployment, which will in turn determine the outcome of the presidential elections in November. However, a successful overseas tour alone will not be enough for him.

### Malaysia's Move on Foreign Workers Welcomed

*BK0301045892 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 0000 GMT 3 Jan 92*

[Text] Indonesia has welcomed and appreciated Malaysia's readiness to minimize the abuse and exploitation of Indonesian workers in that country. Manpower Minister Cosmas Batubara said this in Jakarta yesterday when he received a report from Director General of Job Placement and Promotion Ismail Sumaryo on Malaysia's plan to legalize the status of Indonesian workers.

Minister Cosmas Batubara cited Malaysian Deputy Home Minister Datuk Megat Junid Ayub as saying that the legalization process should not be too complicated and excessive for the workers. Ismail Sumaryo, who just returned from Malaysia, noted that the workers' additional expenses are caused by several employment agencies' imposing fees for the issuance of temporary travel documents. Due to the involvement of the employment agencies on this matter, the workers have to pay not only the legalization fees of 52 ringgit, but also other expenses, the total of which may reach 233 ringgit.

Ismail Sumaryo, who headed a joint team of the Manpower Department and the Directorate General of Immigration, and the Indonesian ambassador in Kuala Lumpur has already raised this issue with the Malaysian Government. As was reported earlier, the Malaysian Government found it necessary to legalize the status of foreign workers and decided to extend the deadline for the legalization process to June 1992.

## Laos

### Countrywide 'Major Events' of 1991 Reviewed

*BK0301045192 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0000 GMT 1 Jan 92*

[Roundup of "major events" in Laos in 1991]

[Excerpts] In 1991 major events took place continuously in the fields of politics, economics, national defense and public security, and international relations. The year opened with the official convening of the 10th enlarged meeting of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party [LPRP] Central Committee on 3 January under the chairmanship of Chairman Kaysone Phomvihan. At the meeting the participants joined in contributing views to the draft political report to be presented by the party Central Committee to the fifth party congress.

On 27 March the Fifth LPRP Congress was opened majestically in Vientiane capital with the participation of 378 full delegates representing more than 60,000 comrade party members in all sectors of work and all localities. In the three day congress the delegates endorsed the political report of the LPRP Central Committee, which reviewed achievements in the past five years. In the report the party Central Committee reviewed good and weak points as well as shortcomings in implementing the party's line and policies in all fields, including the fields of national defense and public security, economics, education, public health, culture, and social affairs. It also reviewed the policy on foreign relations and some experiences scored in pursuing it. In addition, it discussed overall direction and duties to be fulfilled by the entire party and people in building the economic and social establishments.

Noteworthy was that the fifth party congress adjusted certain points of the party's rules and regulations to make them conform with the changed situation. It also elected the Fifth LPRP Central Committee. In the unanimous election the congress elected the Fifth LPRP Central Committee comprising 55 comrade full party Central Committee members and four comrade alternate party Central Committee members. The congress unanimously elected the Political Bureau of the party Central Committee comprising 11 comrade members and elected the Advisory Board of the party Central Committee comprising three comrade members.

The Sixth Session of the Second Supreme People's Assembly [SPA] was officially held in Vientiane from 13-15 August. In the session SPA members from throughout the country, who represented workers, farmers, traders, students, intellectuals, monks, and multiethnic people, unanimously endorsed the First Constitution of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR] and the law on election of National Assembly members. It unanimously elected Kaysone Phomvihan, chairman of the LPRP Central Committee, to be president of the LPDR in place of President Souphanouvong, who has a health problem. The session also unanimously endorsed the appointment of Khamtai Siphandon as prime minister to replace Kaysone Phomvihan; the appointment of Khamphoui Keoboualapha as deputy prime minister and minister of economy, planning, and finance; and the appointment of Lieutenant General Choummali Saignason as minister of national defense. In conclusion, the session discussed and approved the socioeconomic development plan and the state budget for 1991. [passage omitted]

The nationwide conference on organizational work was held in late December. A report on the organizational work in connection with the party and cadre building was presented at the conference. It was noted in the report that despite difficulties and complexities, our party has continued to directly undertake responsibility over the survival and expansion of the new system in our country, and it has even enhanced responsibility over the building of the party to make it politically strong and organizationally and ideologically firm. [passage omitted]

In 1991, as a result of pests and natural disasters—such as drought, floods, and storms—the people's agricultural production has been damaged considerably. Out of the total of more than 530,000 hectares of rice farming and crop cultivation land, including some 400,000 hectares for seasonal rice farming, nearly 50,000 hectares of rice farming land were affected by drought and rice transplantation was impossible. It is expected that rice harvesting can be carried out on only some 300,000 hectares at the end of the harvesting season and that only some 2 metric tons of rice per hectare can be reaped. Normally, only 800,000 metric tons of rice can be gained from seasonal rice farming. In addition, more than 6,130 out of 230,000 hectares of highland rice farming were damaged by the natural disasters. It is expected that only some 300,000 metric tons of rice will be gained from highland rice farming. As a result of the natural disasters, some 61,423 families of farmers will be seriously affected. According to an initial forecast, a total of only some 1.1 million metric tons of rice can be harvested in 1991. Compared to the requirements of the more than 4.29 million people throughout the country, it is predicted that the people will suffer a 400,000-metric-ton rice shortage. [passage omitted]

To compensate for the loss caused by the natural disasters in the past main rice farming season, farmers throughout Vientiane municipality will strive to dry-season rice farm on a total of more than 6,600 hectares with the expectation of harvesting more than 29,200 metric tons of rice grains, or an average yield of some 4 metric tons per hectare. [passage omitted]

To boost industrial production in order to increase national revenue, the first nationwide conference on production of consumer goods and goods for export was held under the chairmanship of Kaysone Phomvihan. The conference reviewed and assessed the past economic, industrial, and exporting situation and discussed further directions and objectives for the production of goods. It also set forth basic measures for implementation of the goods production plan. [passage omitted]

To consolidate, promote, and expand its role as a spearhead of the national economy in boosting economic and cultural production, the first nationwide conference on communications, transport, posts, and construction work was officially held under Kaysone Phomvihan's chairmanship. The conference heard reports on implementation of the work in this field over the past 15 years—from 1975 to 1990. In the communications field, roads with a total length of more than 2,600 km were built or repaired and more than 700 bridges were built. Transportation work was vigorously developed. Postal and telecommunications work was also restored and expanded to link with many countries throughout the world. In the field of economic management, more than 35,000 million kip of revenues was earned. [passage omitted]

The national defense line was also effectively carried out. In a speech addressing the third armywide congress, President Kaysone Phomvihan called for strengthening of the political and ideological work and consolidation of the organizational system. He also called on everyone to stand ready for any eventuality, always maintain vigilance, and together fulfill the responsible tasks of our Army in the new stage. With regard to public security work, an ordinary meeting was held by the Interior Ministry to review past experiences scored in carrying out the public security activities and to adopt a plan for 1991.

Regarding international relations and cooperation, there were also outstanding points in many sectors. For example, after collecting necessary information and making all preparations, a foundation stone-laying ceremony was held in mid-November to mark the beginning of construction of the friendship bridge across the Mekong River linking the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR] and the Kingdom of Thailand. The ceremony was attended by joint hosts Khamtai Siphandon, prime minister of the LPDR; Anan Panyarachun, prime minister of the Kingdom of Thailand; and Dr. Neal Blewett, Australia's minister of trade and overseas development, as representative of the Australian Government, which provided aid for the construction. [passage omitted]

Laos and Thailand have agreed to jointly suppress rebels stationed in areas along the common border. The agreement was reached following the first meeting held between the general border peacekeeping cooperation committees of the two countries in Bangkok, Thailand in late December. The Lao side was headed by Lieutenant General Choummali Sai-Gnason, national defense minister, while the Thai side was headed by General Suchinda Khraprayun, supreme commander of the armed forces and army commander. In addition, Thailand has agreed to cooperate with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees [UNHCR] to repatriate Lao refugees to their native land on a voluntary basis. The two sides will also cooperate in preventing illegal immigration and suppressing narcotics trafficking. A large irrigation project was also built in Saithani District, Vientiane Municipality with grant aid worth $20 million from the Japanese Government. [passage omitted]

In late June, Lao and Myanmar [Burmese] border technical committees also signed in Vientiane a joint memorandum following the joint surveys of the borderline between January and May 1991. A ceremony was also held at a Lao-Myanmar border area on 15 October to mark the planting of the first boundary post between the two countries. [passage omitted]

## PASASON Editorial Welcomes New Year

*BK0201125792 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0500 GMT 2 Jan 92*

[PASASON 2 January Editorial: "Welcome the New Year of 1992 With a New Spirit of Comprehensive Change"]

[Text] Amid an evolving and confusing situation as well as rapid changes in the international arena in 1991, our country has continued to implement the policy of renovation which was formulated by the fifth party congress. The situation in our country has been stable. We have been able to maintain political tranquility, while socioeconomic development has been ceaselessly expanded. Despite last year's drought and floods, agricultural production reached (?4.1) million metric tons, representing an increase of 24.5 percent over that of the previous year. The growth rate of the service sector is anticipated to be 58 percent. The value of exports and the revenue from tax collection increased by 47 and 80 percent respectively. The current amount of bank savings by the public represents an increase of 63 percent. Capital rotation through banks was 4.6 times, twice as much as the previous year. Domestic markets continued to expand while prices of commodities changed slightly. Inflation was eliminated. The value of the kip currency was stable. The policy of renovation and new management mechanism effectively brought about improvement. The multiethnic people's livelihood has been upgraded. The tasks of national defense and the maintenance of public security were actively carried out. The country is stable. The people are happy and are striving energetically to increase production and develop the country. These achievements have further encouraged the multiethnic people to strengthen the country and work for their own prosperity.

In spite of this, many subjective and objective difficulties remain to be overcome. The antagonistic forces consistently attempt to destroy our new regime. The standing of our country has been considerably affected by the adverse consequences of the changes in the world. Therefore, we must head toward the new year of 1992 with a new spirit of comprehensive change and enhance the noble spirit of patriotism, which must be bound to a determination to develop the country and maintain peace and order. We must go down to the grass-roots and rural areas and go up to mountainous areas. The spirit of patriotism must be bound to the spirit of [words indistinct]; the rational determination to fulfill our obligations toward the state; and the spirit of self-dependence and reliance, coupled with assistance from the international community. We must have a sense of responsibility toward our duties and tasks to turn 1992 into a year of successes and victories in all fields.

## Cooperation Commission Meets SRV Counterparts

*BK2812081891 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 1200 GMT 27 Dec 91*

[Text] The delegations of Lao-Vietnamese and Vietnamese-Lao Cooperation Commissions held an official meeting in Vientiane on the afternoon of 26 December. The Lao side was headed by Khamsai Souphanouvong, first deputy minister of economy, planning, and finance and the Vietnamese side by (Tran Khai), vice chairman of the State Planning Committee and vice chairman of the Vietanamese-Lao Cooperation Commission. During the meeting, the two delegations discussed strengthening bilateral relations and the promotion of economic, cultural, scientific, and technical cooperation between their two countries. The discussions and consultations on the said issues will also contribute to the implementation of the results of the agreement reached by leaders of the two countries during the official visit to Hanoi in early October of President Kaysone Phomvinan.

(Tran Khai) and his delegation arrived in Vientiane on 26 December.

The delegations will also sign a memorandum on cooperation between their two countries.

## Cooperation Memorandum Signed With SRV 2 Jan

*BK0201150892 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 1200 GMT 2 Jan 92*

[Text] The high-level technical delegations of Laos and Vietnam signed a memorandum on bilateral economic, cultural, scientific, and technical cooperation during a ceremony held at the Ministry of Economy, Planning, and Finance this morning. The memorandum notes that the implementation of the agreement on economic, cultural, scientific, and technical cooperation between the two countries in 1991 yielded initial satisfactory achievements which caused the bilateral trade value to increase twofold compared with that in 1990. The memorandum also mentions the success of the negotiation between the two delegations in preparation for the signing of the cooperation agreements for the year 1992 and period from 1992 to 1995 with an aim to heighten the efficiency of the implementation of the Treaty of Friendship and Comprehensive Cooperation between Laos and Vietnam which was signed on 18 July 1977 and the joint communique issued in Hanoi during the visit to the SRV of Kaysone Phomvihan, president of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, in October 1991.

Signing the memorandum for the Lao side was Khamsai Souphanouvong, deputy minister of economy, planning, and finance, and on the Vietnamese side (Tran Khai), vice chairman of the SRV State Planning Committee and vice chairman of the Vietnamese-Lao Cooperation Commission.

The signing ceremony was witnessed by Khamphoui Keoboualapha, deputy prime minister and minister of economy, planning, and finance; Nguyen Xuan, SRV ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to Laos; and a number of officials from both sides.

## Souban Salitthilat Returns From Rangoon Meeting

*BK2412023091 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 1200 GMT 23 Dec 91*

[Text] The delegation of the Lao-Myanmar [Burma] Border Commission led by its chairman, Deputy Foreign Affairs Minister Souban Salitthilat, returned to Vientiane on the afternoon of 20 December after attending the second meeting of the Joint Lao-Myanmar Border Commissions in Rangoon of the Union of Myanmar.

At the meeting, the two sides endorsed two important documents, namely an agreement of the Joint Lao-Myanmar Border Commissions and an agreement of the border technical committee. The two documents discussed the fine outcome of the first stage of the survey of the borderline, drawing maps, and planting border demarcation posts along the 100-km-long stretch of border already surveyed. They also approved the second stage of border survey which is currently under way and is expected to be completed in early 1993. The meeting proceeded under an atmosphere of friendship and mutual understanding.

During its stay in Rangoon, the delegation of the Lao-Myanmar Border Commission paid a courtesy call on General Khin Nyunt, secretary-1 of the State Law and Order Restoration Council of Myanmar. The two sides expressed wishes to further strengthen the relations of good neighborliness between the two countries. The delegation also visited many socioeconmic development foundations in Myanmar.

## Government Recognizes Former Soviet Republics

*BK3112135791 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 1200 GMT 31 Dec 91*

[Text] The Foreign Affairs Ministry of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR] today issued a statement on the recognition of the independence of the former Soviet republics.

The statement reads: A profound change recently took place on the territory of the former Soviet Union, that is, the declaration of independence of the 12 republics with their firm adherence to the foreign policy of peace, independence, friendship, and cooperation with all countries.

With the intention of increasing the long-existing traditional friendly relations and cooperation with these independent republics, the LPDR officially recognizes the independence of and is willing to establish (?diplomatic) relations with the Russian Federation and republics of Ukraine, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Azerbaijan, Armenia, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, and Georgia.

The LPDR recognizes that the Russian Federation is handling the foreign affairs of the former Soviet Union as agreed by the Commonwealth of Independent States.

## Foreign Minister Receives Russian Envoy

*BK2912083891 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 1200 GMT 28 Dec 91*

[Text] Yesterday afternoon, Phoun Sipaseut, deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR], received at the Foreign Affairs Ministry in Vientiane Georgiy Rudov, ambassador of the Russian Federation to the LPDR. On this occasion, the Russian ambassador informed Phoun Sipaseut of the outcome of the Minsk and Alma Ata meetings of heads of state of the various independent states on the establishment of the independent commonwealth. He also informed Phoun Sipaseut of the decision of the Supreme Soviet of the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic to change the name of the Russian Federated Socialist Republic to the Russian Federation. The ambassador noted that the Russian Federation serves as the successor of the Soviet Union. Maintaining this status, Russia will, therefore, further abide by international law in view of the obligations of the former Soviet Union, including the obligations as member of the United Nations, member of the UN Security Council, and member of various international organizations, as well as of international treaties.

The Russian ambassador also handed over to Phoun Sipaseut a copy of the letter that Yeltsin, president of the Russian Federation, has sent to the UN secretary general.

On this occasion, Phoun Sipaseut expressed thanks to the ambassador for informing him of the outcome of the meetings. He also expressed his conviction that the traditional, fine relations of friendship and cooperation between the Lao people and the Russian people, as well as the people of other independent states, will be further promoted and expanded.

## Philippines

### Aquino Orders Protection of Subic, Clark Bases

*HK0301015892 Manila DWIZ Voice of the Filipino People's Radio in Tagalog 2200 GMT 02 Jan 92*

[Italicized passages in English]

[Text] President Corazon Aquino ordered the Armed Forces of the Philippines [AFP] to tighten security around the two military bases the United States is scheduled to leave on 31 December. She gave the order during a command conference at Malacanang attended by high-ranking AFP officers. Mrs. Aquino instructed the AFP to make sure that the *watersheds* at Clark and Subic are given the necessary protection.

At the same time, the president released 10 billion Philippine pesos from the contingent fund to be used for maintaining security around the two bases.

According Executive Secretary Franklin Drilon, the release of the funds would be used to protect the *watershed* areas and forests within Subic and Clark. This move aims to preempt the rampant pilfering at the two facilities which might occur once the Americans leave.

### Sees 'Close' Ties After Termination

*HK0301034292 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in Tagalog 0100 GMT 3 Jan 92*

[Text] President Aquino believes the Philippines will continue to have a close relationship with the United States after the government issued its notice of termination to the U.S. Government to withdraw its military facilities from Subic Naval Base before 31 December 1992.

The president hoped that Japan and the United States will understand the steps taken by the government because she said she is just following what the Constitution dictates. Mrs. Aquino made the statement to allay fears that it might affect U.S. support of the Philippines Assistance Program.

### Tells Generals To Stay Out of Politics

*HK0301024292 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 3 Jan 92 p 8*

[Text] President Aquino yesterday reminded military men to keep away from politics and to help the Commission on Elections [Comelec] ensure peaceful, honest and orderly national and local polls in May.

The President issued the instruction to military officers led by Gen. Lisandro Abadia, Armed Forces chief of staff, and Defense Secretary Renato de Villa during a command conference in Malacanang to discuss the upcoming political exercise and the impending U.S. pullout from Subic Naval Base this year.

"The President reiterated her previous instructions to General Abadia and to the rest of the service commanders that they should not participate in partisan political activities. ...(It) should be limited to assisting the Comelec to make sure that we have an honest and orderly elections come May 1992," Executive Secretary Franklin Drilon said.

In a related development, Camp Crame sources said at least four Philippine National Police [PNP] regional directors, including Marino Filart, Capital Command chief, will be relieved from their posts before the first PNP anniversary celebration this month to ensure police neutrality in the May 11 elections.

The reorganization set before Jan. 29 is expected to also involve at least 20 PNP provincial commanders and at least 12 district and company commanders, the same sources said.

They said Filart and PNP directors Vicente Garcia of Eastern Visayas; Triumfo Agustin of Central Visayas; and Roger Deinla of Western Mindanao will be reassigned.

Another police regional director is also expected to be transferred once his brother-in-law, who is running for a political post in his area of jurisdiction, files his certificate of candidacy.

The director is reportedly replacing Filart who will most likely be assigned to Central Visayas in place of Agustin, the source said.

During the command conference at Malacanang, Drilon said Ms. Aquino also instructed the Armed Forces to secure the facilities at Clark Air Base and Subic Naval Base.

Drilon said Ms. Aquino had ordered the release of P [Philippine Pesos] 5 million each for both Clark and

Subic for maintenance and security pending the passage of a bill creating the Baselands Conversion Authority.

More funds will also be released for the protection of the watershed and the forest cover at Subic, he said.

The government on Tuesday served Washington a notice of termination of the RP [Republic of the Philippines]-U.S. MIlitary Bases Agreement. U.S. troops have until Dec. 31 to pull out.

## Abadia on New Coup Plot, 'Destabilization Plan'

*HK2112051091 Manila DWIZ Voice of the Filipino People's Radio in Tagalog 2200 GMT 20 Dec 91*

[Text] After denying two times this week that rebel soldiers are planning a new coup d'etat, General Lisandro Abadia admitted that he has placed the Armed Forces of the Philippines [AFP] under red alert in light of a new coup threat from former Colonel Gringo Honasan's group. At the same time, General Abadia confirmed the existence of a new destabilization plan by military rebels which will happen any day from now up to the May 1992 elections.

Prior to this, General Abadia, in several interviews, said that since he was installed as the new AFP chief, never [as heard] has the military been placed under red alert. He also dismissed as having no basis Senator Juan Ponce Enrile's warning of a military take-over if the election becomes dirty and dishonest.

However, the general said that the red alert he declared only lasted for 24 hours because the expected jailbreak by military rebels who were involved in the past three coup d'etats did not push through.

In related news, General Abadia also mentioned that former Colonel Gregorio Gringo Honasan has left his old safe-house in Metro Manila in order to avoid the intensive manhunt launched against him and other leaders of the Revolutionary Nationalist Alliance [RAM] by the military. Abadia declined to explain why efforts to track down Honasan have failed despite the fact that the AFP intelligence community knows where he can be located. Abadia said that Honasan has changed hiding places and is suspected of having left Metro Manila. He admitted that the military is more concentrated on catching Honasan than the other leaders of the RAM-Soldiers of the Filipino People-Young Officers Union. Gringo [Honasan] is currently considered the most wanted rebel in the country and a 5 million Philippine peso reward is being offered for his capture. It could be remembered that Gringo Honasan turned down the 23 November deadline offered by the government.

## Salonga-Pimentel Alliance 'Formalized'

*HK0301090492 Manila DZXL Radio Mindanao Network in Tagalog 0700 GMT 3 Jan 92*

[By Ronald Estela]

[Text] The tactical alliance between the Liberal Party and the Filipino Democratic Party-Nation's Strength [LP-PDP-Laban] was formalized today. Both Senators Jovito Salonga and Nene Pimentel Jr. appeared before the media to announce the merger of their groups, which will be called People's Party Coalition. It was learned that the coalition's standard bearer will be Senator Jovito Salonga, while Senator Aquilino Nene Pimentel Jr. would likely be the vice presidential candidate.

Meanwhile, the two politicians also said that, as a result of this coalition, they are almost certain they would defeat other political groups in the country. Salonga added that although the LP-PDP-Laban alliance had been formed, any political group can still join the coalition. In his speech, Senator Salonga denied yesterday's reports claiming that members of the two groups have not been consulted regarding this alliance. Salonga's reaction is viewed as a reaction to the statement of Senator Teofisto Tito Guingona who said that he and other members were not consulted on the tactical alliance.

## Ticket Approved for 1992 Polls

*HK0101121792 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 1100 GMT 1 Jan 92*

[Text] A Salonga-Pimentel tandem for the 1992 elections has been approved in principle. DZRH has learned that the agreement was forged at 1430 this afternoon. According to the agreement, a coalition between the Liberal Party [LP] and Philipino Democratic Party [PDP]-Nation's Strength will endorse Senator Salonga as the president and Sen Pimentel as the vice president in the coming presidential elections. The PDP-Laban-LP coalition will spark an immediate discussion between Senator Pimentel and the groups of former Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos and former Chief Justice Marcelo Fernan.

## Ramos 'Formally' Registers Own Political Party

*HK0301062592 Quezon City ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corporation DZMM in Tagalog 0400 GMT 3 Jan 92*

[Text] The new People's Power Party has been formally registered with the Commission on Elections [Comelec]. The party has endorsed former Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos as its official candidate for the 1992 presidential polls. The application for the adjudication of the new party was filed at the office of Comelec Chairman Christian Monsod today. Secretary Ramos strongly believes the party will predominate and will propel him to the highest position in the election.

## Manglapus Says Fernan To Run for President

*HK2312045391 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 0300 GMT 23 Dec 91*

[Text] Former Chief Justice Marcelo Fernan will be fielded by the National Union of Christian Democrats [NUCD] as its candidate for president in the 1992 polls. This was stated by Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus, chairman of the NUCD. According to Manglapus, Fernan is not a member of the NUCD, but he is due to join the organization in the very near future, and will be made the party's president. Earlier, Congressman Pablo Garcia, who resigned from the Struggle of Filipino Democrats, joined the NUCD. Cebu Governor Emilio Lito Osmena has been named the party's vice president for the Visayas.

## Mindanao Power Plants Close Due to Fuel Shortage

*HK2412044491 Manila PHILIPPINES NEWSDAY in English 24 Dec 91 p 3*

[By Ernesto L. Tugaff Jr.]

[Excerpt] Mindanao's power situation yesterday took a turn for the worse as a shutdown of hydroelectic plants was ordered in Bukidnon and Lake Lanao, which host the biggest sources of electrical power in the region. The crisis is exacerbated further by an acute shortage of fuel which runs diesel plants and power barges in the region.

This developed even as leaders of Mindanao-based utilities and industries urged Senator Teofisto Guingona Jr. to ask President Aquino to declare the entire island of Mindanao in a state of calamity in the wake of the power crisis in the region, which has reduced the supply to consumers to 50 percent.

National Power Corp. (NPC) officials yesterday said that the 12-hour rotating brownouts remained in effect without any sign of relief even as another power barge was deployed and synchronized with the Mindanao grid as of December 20.

The power barge was pulled out from Navotas to augment the output of the two stationary diesel power plants and the four barges now operating in the region. Officials however said the diesel-run plants and barges could hardly compensate for the losses in terms of energy from the hydro plants. At most, only 15 to 20 percent of Mindanao's power supply can be sourced from such plants and barges, the officials said.

The problem is made more critical by the reported shortage of diesel fuel which operates these plants and barges. Officials estimate that the plants and barges need some 20,000 liters per hour on a daily basis. The officials also said supply of diesel oil from oil companies in the area was fast dwindling. [passage omitted]

## Official Says Taiwan Vessel Given Entry Permit

*HK2412044391 Manila PHILIPPINES NEWSDAY in English 24 Dec 91 p 3*

[By Arthur I. Bariuad]

[Text] Assistant Secretary of Foreign Affairs for intelligence and security Vicente Perez yesterday admitted having issued an "entry permit" for the Taiwanese "fish carrier" apprehended by elements of the Philippine Coast Guard (PCG) in Bolinao, Pananiam last month but stressed there was no foul play involved it.

Perez told NEWSDAY the "entry permit" he issued to the Taiwanese fishing vessel was a "clearance to enter Philippine waters" but not a permit to fish or to load illegal cargo. "I only issued an entry permit and whatever they did while here, that's already the responsibility of other agencies of government."

"The Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) is mandated by law to issue entry permits to all foreign vessels and aircraft entering the Philippine territorial jurisdiction," Perez explained.

On November 27, the PCG and the local seaborne patrol of the Citizens Armed Forces Geographical Unit (CAFGU) apprehended in Bolinao the Taiwanese "fish carrier" Nan Ao loaded with 1,960 cartons of garlic and assorted kinds of fish.

Elements of the PCG said the master of the vessel, when asked to explain about the cargo, presented "documents" signed by Perez and the MTTC [Manila Tokyo Trading Corporation]. Local fishermen in Bolinao, however, are accusing the "fish carrier" of engaging in poaching in Philippine waters.

Perez, for his part, pointed out that the presence of 1,960 cartons of garlic shows the MTTC's "clear intention to smuggle," which was not only a violation of the country's laws but also of the clearance issued by the DFA.

NEWSDAY contacted the MTTC for comment, but was informed that the company's spokesman was gone for vacation until next year. The company president was also out and is expected to report for work next year.

According to Perez, the entry permit was issued as per application of a legal business entity operating in the country for an appointed foreign vessel to enter Philippine waters and call on a designated port of entry for a specified number of days.

Based on the documents furnished NEWSDAY by Perez, the Manila Tokyo Trading Corporation (MTTC) applied for an entry clearance on October 12 this year before the Foreign Office for the Taiwanese vessel Nan Ao with registry number 52002 CT89-1209.

As per MTTC application, the "fish carrier" owned by Long Tong Yi Fuh Chan of "China" (Taiwan) will call on the Manila International Container Port (MICP) on October 18 to "load aqua-marine products". The MTTC application also noted that "no passengers and no inward cargo" was aboard the "fish carrier" except for the "crew members."

The application signed by Wu Tuen Chiong, MTTC president, gave the "estimated time of departure" as November 18, 1991."

Perez said the Foreign Office issued on october 16 an "entry clearance" also directed the MTTC to "coordinate" with appropriate government agencies like the PCG, the Bureaus of Immigration and Deportation, Customs, Quarantine, Philippine Ports Authority and the Department of Agriculture.

Perez noted in the permit that such clearance "is valid only for the voyage indicated in your application, and all restricted nationals on board will be under the CID [Commission of Immigration and Deportation] supervision at all times."

Last week, the Philippine Navy released a report to the press which showed increasing violations of the sealanes agreement signed between Manila and Taipei in July this year. Local fishermen in Bolinao said the incidence of poaching by Taiwanese nationals increased when the agreement was signed prompting warnings from Assistant Executive Secretary Roberto Rafael Lucila to abrogate the accord. Lucila was the head of the Philippine panel which negotiated the highly controversial sealanes agreement.

## Thailand

### Asa Summarizes Foreign Ministry Achievements

*BK0301140792 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in Thai 1200 GMT 3 Jan 92*

[Text] Foreign Minister Asa Sarasin today briefed reporters on achievements in foreign affairs during the past period. He said that the Foreign Ministry had been trying to establish peace and relations with neighboring countries. The obvious achievement in this regard has been the strengthening of Thai-Lao relations. For example, agreements on bilateral cooperation have been concluded and the Thai-Lao Friendship Bridge is under construction. On 6 January, Kaysone Phomvihan, president of the Laos People's Democratic Republic, will visit Thailand as a royal guest. We have been trying to promote good relations with Vietnam. There has been an exchange of visits at the prime minister level. Thai Prime Minister Anan Panyarachun will visit Vietnam on 15 to 17 January. The visit will pave the way for bilateral cooperation and create trust in the economic, trade, and investment fields for this region.

The foreign minister said that we had been making efforts for the Cambodian peace plan with the good cooperation of the United Nations. The four Cambodian factions have turned to talks, and peace has been achieved despite some problems and obstacles. Although this government will complete its term soon, what the government has done is laying a ground work for a new government to continue to establishe permanent peace for this region. The government is proud of this achievement.

Regarding the ASEAN Free Trade Area [AFTA] policy, he said that the government has been making efforts for this to bring in economic and social prosperity for this region. The AFTA framework, which Thailand will propose to the fourth ASEAN summit in Singapore at the end of this month, is expected to be approved by the ASEAN economic ministers.

### Bangkok Proposes Restructuring Japan Trade Ties

*BK0201015692 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 2 Jan 92 pp 1, 3*

[Text] Thailand wants economic relations with Japan restructured in seven areas: trade, services, investment and joint industrial development, environment, technological and human resources development, and also to become the centre for the development of Indochina.

These proposals are contained in the Second White Paper presented by Prime Minister Anan Panyarachun to his Japanese counterpart, Kiichi Miyazawa, during his visit to Japan in December. The paper is to be discussed at a ministerial-level meeting in Bangkok in February.

The paper points out that restructuring of Japanese-Thai economic relations is necessary to suit continuing changes in global and regional economic situations and to sustain several new areas of development in Thailand, including science and appropriate technology, human resources and rural development.

On trade, the paper outlines short-term and long-term policy guidelines.

Short-term measures include negotiations aimed at removing barriers to Thai exports to Japan and at increasing access to the Japanese market; and monitoring the implementation of agreed measures through the private sector's annual meetings of the Joint Trade and Economic Committee.

Long-term measures call for an improvement in the product standard of Thai exports to Japan and expansion of the kingdom's industrial production base and structure. Japan, according to the White Paper, should promote imports of manufactured goods from Thailand, particularly agro-based manufactured goods, semi-manufactured products, and products from supporting industries which have been assisted in terms of investment and production restructuring under guidelines established by the paper.

On Thailand's role of becoming the centre for the development of Indochina, the White Paper proposes Japan support the rehabilitation and reconstruction of Indochina. Thailand, as the coordinator, will cooperate by organising meetings of interested countries and international organisations.

The paper says Thailand is prepared to provide full support if Japan, other donor countries and international organisations agree to endorse Thailand as the centre for the development of Indochina. This includes the establishment of research and development institutes and human resource development centres in Thailand.

In granting aid to Indochina, Japan should consider purchasing goods and services from Thailand, says the paper.

The paper also proposes Japan should consider increasing investment in Southeast Asian region and opening its market to more imports from ASEAN [Association of Southeast Asian Nations].

"It can use Thailand as its base for production and exports. This will help this region sustain its competitive capabilities," says the paper, which also suggests Japan should consider extending Japanese-Thai joint ventures in production and trade with Indochina and Burma.

To support economic restructuring and economic expansion of ASEAN and Indochina, the paper proposes that Japan establishes a bank or a fund in Thailand for the development of Southeast Asia.

On services, particularly shipping, the paper proposes Japan should consider employing more Thai merchant ships in transporting merchandise between the two countries, particularly goods supplied through Japan's lending scheme.

On tourism, the paper proposes Japan should encourage Japanese travel agencies to urge more Japanese to visit Thailand and increase their average staying period. Japan should also encourage Japanese airlines to extend their operations to various international airports in Thailand.

Regarding cooperation in investment and industrial development, the paper identifies four target industries for joint Thai-Japanese development endeavour. They are engineering, electronics, textiles, iron and steel.

On environment, the paper suggests that Japan should support the solving of environmental problems in old industrial zones, particularly the problems of water pollution, toxic waste, and air pollution. Japan may assist in the feasibility study and the construction of centralised system for water treatment. Japan should also help support the establishment of urban environmental management systems, particularly for Bangkok and growth in the provinces.

The White Paper also urges early agreement between Japan and ASEAN on the terms and conditions for the allocation of the ASEAN-Japan Development Fund to support target industrial sectors, agro-industries, trade and services which is consistent with the Fund's objectives.

Japan will be encouraged to increase its investment in nine growth areas in the provinces of Chiang Mai, Phitsanulok, Nakhon Sawan, Khon Kaen, Nakhon Ratchasima, Sara Buri, Rat Buri, Surat Thani and Songkhla, and the establishment of centres to undertake distribution and subcontract work, as well as the construction of industrial estates in these provinces.

The paper calls for Japan to support the development of research institutions and technological infrastructure such as research and testing centres for industrial products; transfer of management technology in Japanese-Thai joint venture firms; and establishing a Japanese technological college in Thailand teaching Japanese curriculum and using Japanese language.

The Second White Paper covers five years period which coincides with the implementation of Thailand's Seventh National Economic and Social Development Plan (1991-1996).

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### Aid to Burma Seen as Undermining Isolation

*BK0301025392 Bangkok THE NATION in English 3 Jan 92 p B10*

[Text] Burma is likely to receive the most assistance from farm aid programmes proposed by the Agriculture Ministry for neighbouring states, including Vietnam and Cambodia.

The aid programmes were mapped out following the visits by Deputy Agriculture Minister At Taolanon to Vietnam last September and Cambodia last November, and Agriculture Minister Anat Aphaphirom to Rangoon, also last November.

At told reporters that Burma should receive the highest priority in the scheme because the Thai Government has not initiated any assistance programmes for the country.

Thailand has offered assistance to Laos, Cambodia and Vietnam, particularly in training and grants in aid, he added.

The proposed assistance for Burma will undermine the international effort to isolate the country for its notorious human rights records. Thailand's attitude toward Burma has caused concern among various countries, including the United States. Last year, Secretary of State James Baker, during a meeting with his ASEAN [Association of Southeast Asian Nations] counterparts, asked the six-country grouping to end friendly relations with Rangoon and bring more pressure to bear on the Burmese Government.

At said the proposals were a result of consultations between the ministry, the Department of Technical and Economic Cooperation—which oversees in-bound and out-bound development assistance—and the Foreign Ministry.

The proposals have been submitted to the Department of Technical and Economic Cooperation, which received a budget of over Bt200 million this fiscal year to put through aid programes.

According to the the proposals will form part of the national policy on development assistance to the Indochinese states, drawn up by the Foreign Ministry. [sentence as published]

The proposals contain a broad action plan to send high-ranking officials of the Agriculture Ministry, related agencies, and the Board of Trade to these countries for assessing the extent of assistance needed in training and technology transfer, and for selecting approaches to future agro business.

Training will be provided to officials of the Indochinese states both in Thailand and in their home countries. A team of representatives from the private and public sectors will be sent to determine investment opportunities in the short and long term.

For Burma, the ministry has proposed assistance in the fields of farming and livestock development, and cooperation in research and development on four major crops.

The Fisheries Department will provide a schedule of the study tour for the Burmese to visit Thai shrimp and fish farms.

In the agro sector, the Thai side will extend cooperation in the fields of poultry and cattle farming, and dairy farming, and evolve a programme to tackle foot and mouth disease.

There will also be development assistance programmes for the Burmese to upgrade the production of animal feeds, such as maize, sorghum and soybeam through the supply of better seeds and training in new methods.

Thailand will provide cooperation in research and development on four major crops, including natural rubber, cashew nut, rice, and maize. Burmese officials will be given training in Thailand, while Thai officials may also travel to Burma to spread knowhow in planning and data collection.

For Vietnam, the country's deputy agriculture minister has expressed interest in technical exchange programmes with Thailand and invited Thai businesses for joint venture investments in agro businesses, such as processed fruit and vegetable, canned food, silk farming, tea, and cashew nut.

Vietnam also wishes to devleop its poultry and pig farming industry.

In addition, Vietnam wants to develop its petrochemical industry to make fertilizer, and Thailand has been asked to become a partner. Vietnam has sought cooperation from Thailand in solving problems associated with the falling prices of rice in the world market.

As for Cambodia, the country faces the problem of food shortages for its own population, which is growing at an annual rate of three per cent.

## List of Goods for Thai-SRV Trade Approved

*BK3112023391 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 31 Dec 91 p 2*

[Text] The Cabinet yesterday approved a draft proposal to amend the Thai-Vietnamese agreement on trade, economic and technical cooperation.

Under a proposal from the Foreign Ministry, both sides will shorten the list of goods intended for bilateral trade to fit present trade conditions.

Thailand and Vietnam will support joint ventures of investors from both sides and create suitable conditions for their operations.

A joint Thai-Vietnamese economic cooperation commission will work out priorities of the economic cooperation.

In the area of techncial cooperation, both sides will make available to each other facilities for research work and training.

There will also be exchanges of technicians.

## Anan's SRV Visit, Improving Ties Previewed

*BK0201080292 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in English 0000 GMT 2 Jan 92*

["News in Perspective" feature]

[Text] During the past year, Thailand and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam [SRV] strove to resolve all suspicion, differences, and misunderstanding between the two countries. Both nations are now stepping into a new chapter of relationship based on mutual trust, confidence, and benefits.

At the invitation of Chairman of the Vietnamese Council of Ministers Vo Van Kiet, Prime Minister Anan Panyarachun plans to pay an official visit to Vietnam later this month [15-17 January]. The visit will be the first by a Thai prime minister in many years marking an historic event for new facet of Thai-Vietnamese cooperation.

Deputy Foreign Minister Wichian Watthanakhun will lead a delegation to Vietnam soon to pave the way for Prime Minister Anan's visit to that country.

In late October last year, Chairman of the Vietnamese Council of Ministers Vo Van Kiet led a delegation to Thailand for a three-day official visit to strengthen bilateral relations. He was the first Vietnamese prime minister to visit Thailand in 13 years.

During the visit, the two sides reaffirmed the importance of the agreement on trade, economic, and technical cooperation of 1978 as a basis for further development of bilateral economic relations between the two countries. They agreed to amend the agreement in keeping with new developments in their relations.

The Cabinet during its session early this week approved a draft protocol to amend the agreement following a proposal by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The foreign minister, or his representative, has been entrusted to sign the protocol with Vietnam on behalf the Thai Government.

The amendments to the agreement on trade, economic, and technical cooperation call on both sides to support joint ventures by investors of the two countries. The

Thai-Vietnamese Joint Commission on Economic Cooperation will be asked to set priorities for various fields of economic cooperation. The two sides will promote academic cooperation and facilitate research projects, training, and exchanges of craftsmen between them. They will also shorten out lists of goods for exchange by both sides in line with the current trade situation.

In addition to the protocol to amend the agreement on trade, economic, and technical cooperation of 1978, the Cabinet this week also approved the opening of a Thai consulate in Ho Chi Minh City formerly known as Saigon in southern Vietnam. About 95 percent of Thai businesspeople's contacts with Vietnam were made in Ho Chi Minh City. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs stressed the need to open the Thai consulate to oversee and protect the interests of Thai people, especially to help Thai fishermen arrested in that country. Another reason is that Ho Chi Minh City is quite far from Hanoi, Vietnam's capital, where the Thai Embassy is situated. The Thai consulate in Ho Chi Minh City will also help facilitate Thailand consular service in Vietnam and oversee Thai people's interests in the wider area.

Thailand and Vietnam are jointly working toward building a firm foundation for a new era of constructive cooperation. With the sincere determination and common commitment, both sides will certainly bring about prosperity and further development to Southeast Asia as a whole.

## Improved Relations With SRV 'Top Priority'

*BK0201020892 Bangkok THE NATION in English 2 Jan 92 p A6*

[Editorial: "Improving Thai-VN Ties Is Now a Top Priority"]

[Text] After the Vietnam War Thailand tried to stay away from the East-West confrontation by befriending China. When former Prime Minister M.R. Khukrit Pramot visited Beijing in 1975 he stressed that Thailand and China could develop friendly and mutually beneficial ties despite their ideological differences. Former Prime Minister Gen Kriangsak Chomanan followed the same theme in improving ties with the Soviet Union and Vietnam in the late 1970s.

The Vietnamese invasion of Cambodia in December 1978 seriously strained Thai relations with Vietnam and the Soviet Union, which tacitly supported the Vietnamese military occupation of Cambodia. Subsequently Thailand and China were drawn closer together because of their common security interest in opposing the Vietnamese aggression by supporting the Cambodian resistance factions.

### Paris Peace Accords

Now that the Cambodian conflict has been settled, at least on paper in the Paris peace accords, it is imperative that Thailand and Vietnam try to improve their relations through confidence-building measures and increased trade and economic cooperation. The newly-appointed Vietnamese Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet stressed on the same point during his visit to Thailand last October.

In this regard the visits of Army Chief Gen Suchinda Khraprayun to Vietnam during Jan 6-8 and of Prime Minister Anan Panyarachun during Jan 15-17 come at the most opportune moment. The Thai leaders will likely find that though Vietnam still clings to the socialist ideology and runs the country with a ruling communist party—very much like that in China—Vietnam is no longer a direct security threat to Thailand.

Vietnam may still have a large, formidable army, but its economy is in a shambles. And without massive external aid, like it used to receive from the Soviet Union during the 1970s and 1980s, Vietnam is no longer in a position to maintain its one-million-strong army, much less to engage in another costly military adventure overseas. As former Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thatch puts it, Vietnam wants peace in Southeast Asia and economic cooperation with its ASEAN neighbours; but Hanoi does not want a new regional conflict that would surely ruin its economic reform programmes.

### Frontline State

Being the frontline state during the confrontation between ASEAN and Vietnam over Cambodia, Thailand should play an active role in mending political fences with Vietnam. Former Prime Minister Gen Chatchai Chunhawan started the mending with his policy initiative in transforming the war zone of Indochina into a trade zone. And Prime Minister Anan has followed suit by seeking better understanding and closer ties with Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia.

Thailand and Laos have just signed a new accord on border security cooperation. The construction of the Thai-Lao bridge is now under way. Thailand and Cambodia are actively trading at their border towns and Thai investors are also cashing in on new economic opportunities in Phnom Penh. Friendlier ties and increased economic cooperation between Thailand and Vietnam will benefit not only the two countries, but will also help secure the fragile peace in Cambodia.

## Subcommittee on Displaced Cambodians Issue Meets

*BK3112065091 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in English 0000 GMT 31 Dec 91*

[Text] As already agreed upon by all sides, displaced Cambodians will be repatriated under the supervision of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees [UNHCR] starting in April, 1992. A subcommittee on information met recently to review the situation. The meeting was told that members of displaced Cambodians would be tripped back to Cambodia following the signing of the peace accord in Paris.

Since early 70's, many influxes of Cambodians across the western border happened. Over 360,000 displaced Cambodians have been given temporary shelters on humanitarian grounds. The country and the people, especially those living along the border, have borne the brunt of this grave tragedy of mankind.

For the repatriation of displaced persons, Thailand firmly stated the principle of voluntary repatriation and the close supervision of the UNHCR. Safety has to be guaranteed for all those joining the repatriation program.

### Return of Khmer Refugees Awaits Sufficient Funds

*BK0201025292 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in Thai 0000 GMT 2 Jan 92*

[Text] Repatriation of 350,000 displaced Cambodians in Thailand is not yet possible because the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees [UNHCR] is in the process of collecting a targeted fund of U.S. $33 million.

According to Khachatphai Burutphat, deputy secretary general of the National Security Council [NSC], the UNHCR has so far collected a sum of U.S. $9 million only, while Thailand wishes all the displaced Cambodians to be repatriated as soon as possible.

However, the UNHCR is speeding up the construction of refugee camps in Cambodia to prepare the way for the return of the displaced Cambodians to their homeland. The construction is expected to be completed in March 1992.

### Cambodia's Chea Sim Meets With Suchinda 2 Jan

*BK0301015992 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 3 Jan 92 p 3*

[Text] Phnom Penh's National Assembly Chairman Chea Sim met Gen Suchinda Khraprayun yesterday in Bangkok, where Chea Sim was undergoing a medical check-up, a Cambodian official said.

The armed forces chief and other senior Thai military leaders visited Chea Sim at a central Bangkok hospital where he was admitted for an annual check-up shortly after arriving from Phnom Penh in a Thai military aircraft on Wednesday.

Chea Sim, widely believed to be Phnom Penh's most powerful leader, did not discuss political issues with the Thai military commanders, according to Kampoun Keumany, a senior Phnom Penh Government information official.

"General Suchinda only asked about his condition. This is strictly a personal trip. He (Chea Sim) came here for health reasons," he said.

Chea Sim, who previously had medical checks in Vietnam, France and Japan, was invited by Gen Suchinda to undergo tests here.

Other sources said the Phnom Penh leader was expected to discuss political issues during his stay in Thailand. He is to return to Phnom Penh on Monday.

### Mine Defusers 'Must Be Part' of UN Mission

*BK0301022192 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 3 Jan 92 p 2*

[Text] Thailand is insisting that Thai troops to be sent into Cambodia to help defuse landmines along the western border must be part of the United Nations mission.

Deputy Foreign Minister Wichian Watthanakhun said the country is negotiating with the UN on the issue.

Mr Wichian was referring to a recent request by the UN Advance Mission in Cambodia for Thailand to send a regiment of troops to help clear landmines along the Thai-Cambodian border.

Thailand will not rush to send troops into Cambodia without having regard to their presence being properly requested, Mr Wichian said.

### Amaret Fears GATT Talks Failure, Trade Wars

*BK0201020092 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 2 Jan 92 p 12*

[Text] Commerce Minister Amaret Sila-on is worried possible failure of General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade talks may create a world trade war this year.

His concern follows negative reactions from Europe and Japan which strongly attacked the 450-page draft text distributed by GATT Director-General Arthur Dunkel late last month.

Mr Amaret said if the five-year-old Uruguay Round of trade talks failed to reach any conclusion this month, some superpowers may increase their trade barriers against imports and this would adversely affect the world economy and Thai exports.

The United States has already used its Trade Act as a tool to force trading partners such as Thailand to improve intellectual property rights protection.

At the same time, some other powers permit unfair competition by providing internal supports and export subsidies, for some products, causing Thailand to lose its competitive advantage.

A rapid change in world economics, especially the collapse of communism in Eastern Europe and a new direction in Indochina, have seen these countries emerge as potential competitors in some sectors.

## NSC Chief: No Major Military Threat in 5 Years

*BK3012051191 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 30 Dec 91 p 1*

[Text] Thailand is unlikely to face a major military threat over the next five years, National Security Council [NSC] Secretary-General Gen Charan Kunlawanit forecast yesterday.

The high-ranking official attributed the prospect of a relatively peaceful future for Thailand to the fact that its neighbours such as Burma, Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia cannot afford to become involved in any more armed conflicts.

Vietnam, once considered as Thailand's greatest rival, will not pose any serious threat for the time being because of crippling economic factors which are fueling internal political and social upheaval, he said.

However, Vietnam still has the capacity to mount a major military strike against Thailand, he added.

Gen Charan disagreed with the prediction that a regional conflict among nations staking a claim to the Spratley Islands would erupt within three to four years.

Any aggression to claim the island would have to be delayed until the economies of those countries improve and prosper, he said.

However, Gen Charan said over the next few years Thailand would still have to be on its guard against non-military threats to its security which may stem from internal political conflicts and economic strains resulting from efforts to put a brake on soaring inflation and a shortage of skilled labour.

On the regional balance of power, the NSC secretary-general said the collapse of the Soviet Union had removed the threat of confrontation and made the US the sole military superpower in Southeast Asia.

The return of a US presence to the region has been signaled by its increasing contacts with Vietnam in working towards the lifting of the economic embargo and eventually the normalisation of diplomatic ties, he said.

And, despite its outward objection to Burma's military junta, the US has maintained its investment and economic interests in the country, he said.

On the other hand, Japan is bound to step up its role in the region as a financial superpower, possibly by sending troops to help UN operations in Cambodia.

Gen Charan believes that Japan does not want to expand its military power to fill the gap left by the Soviets, although its aims are still unclear.

Despite recent violence which has threatened to disrupt the Cambodian peace process, the NSC chief said it could not be reversed because any departure from the agreed peace framework would deprive the leaders of Cambodian factions of all their opportunities.

But he noted that recent violent demonstrations in the war-torn country indicated that Cambodian leaders were still unable to get the peace message across to poverty-stricken masses.

He said anymore internal conflicts would affect the repatriation of displaced Cambodians from Thailand and their resettlement programme because it would cast doubt on whether the Cambodian authorities are in control.

## Prime Minister Comments on Free Trade Zone

*BK0301095792 Hong Kong AFP in English 0926 GMT 3 Jan 92*

[Text] Singapore, Jan 3 (AFP)—The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), aiming at a free trade zone in 15 years, might try to accelerate the process with certain industry sectors, Thai Prime Minister Anan Panyarachun said.

Anan also said in an interview published in SINGAPORE BUSINESS magazine that once Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos and Burma developed market-oriented economies they could become partners in regional economic cooperation.

Bangkok launched the ASEAN Free Trade Area (AFTA) idea, which is expected to be adopted in diluted form here at the January 27-28 summit of leaders from Thailand, Singapore, Malaysia, Brunei, Indonesia and the Philippines.

The original 10-year timetable for the plan, currently involving only manufactured products, has been stretched to 15 years. But Anan told SINGAPORE BUSINESS that not all sectors would take that long.

"At the summit meeting in Singapore we might try out two or three sectors with a much shorter time frame," said Anan, who took office after a military coup in February and is due to step down after elections this year.

"We could select sector A or sector B with a two-or three-year time frame or a five-year time frame," the prime minister said. He did not give specifics but said the summit would take up some "concrete proposals."

The AFTA plan excludes agriculture and services, incorporates an Indonesian proposal to cut tariffs on selected manufactured items to 0-5 percent in the transition, and allows states to opt out of arrangements on specific products.

But Anan brushed off any criticism of the proposal's modest ambitions, saying, "The most important thing is to have the ability and the courage to take the first step."

He said that the Indochinese states and Burma still had to make their economies more compatible with the non-communist countries of ASEAN and develop more-open political systems.

"Then it is inevitable that sometime in the future ... they will eventually be part of the total, overall regional system, either through their membership in ASEAN or through some kind of other collaborative arrangement," he said.

The magazine also interviewed Singapore Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong, who said the challenge facing ASEAN was to keep itself "relevant and sought after" in the post-cold war era with America and Europe forming economic blocs.

He said that with the resolution of regional conflicts such as Cambodia, "the way is now open to a better relationship between ASEAN and the Indochinese countries."

### Suchinda Gives New Year's Speech 31 Dec

*BK0101034292 Bangkok THE NATION in English 1 Jan 92 pp A1, A2*

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] Gen Suchinda Khraprayun, in his New Year's speech as Army commander in chief, yesterday called for the Army to be united and to protect its honour and dignity. "Unity and cooperation is the strength that has helped us through many crises. It helped the Thai Army to develop to what it is and it helps in our participation in the development process of our country," he said.

Suchinda added that the Army could not possibly resist the worldwide trend of demilitarization and that eventually the Thai Army would have to adapt itself and its role to the rapidly changing world. [passage omitted]

### Chat Thai Leader on Alliance With STP, SAP

*BK0101042092 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 1 Jan 92 p 1*

[Text] Chat Thai Party leader Sombun Rahong says he is confident his party will be able to form the next coalition government with Samakkhi Tham [STP] and probably Social Action.

ACM [Air Chief Marshal] Sombun told reporters yesterday there is a 90 per cent chance the SAP will join Chat Thai and STP in forming the government after the general election.

Chat Thai and STP will participate in the coalition because "we have cooperated on other matters before," he said.

His party has not yet been in contact with the New Aspiration Party of Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut yet, but he did not rule out future cooperation.

Every party's policy is more or less the same, ACM Sombun said, so he does not see any problem in their cooperating. He denied, however, that Chat Thai, the STP and the SAP have identified with the National Peace-keeping Council [NPKC].

He said the NPKC leaders, including Air Force chief ACM Kaset Rotchananil, had repeatedly declared that the NPKC will not meddle with politics.

Asked if he is ready to become prime minister if Chat Thai obtains a majority of seats in the Lower House, ACM Sombun said this would depend on whether the public is confident in his party's policy platform.

Chat Thai's policy is simple, he said, adding his party will strive to raise people's incomes and to solve Bangkok's traffic jams.

Asked if he could confirm reports that some Puangchon Chao Thai Party [PCCT] members might join Chat Thai, ACM Sombun declined to comment, saying only Suwat Liptaphanlop, the PCCT's key member, could answer the question.

ACM Sombun yesterday led key Chat Thai Party members to pay respects to the party's ex-leader and former premier Gen Chatchai Chunhawan at the general's Soi Ratchakhru home.

Gen Chatchai said he is confident Chat Thai Party will be able to spearhead the formation of the next coalition government.

He welcomed reports that major political parties are to get together to prepare to form the post-election coalition.

He still could not say if he would stand in the election. This is expected to be known by February 10—the first of the five-day registration period for candidates.

### NLA Chief on Premier Appointment Controversy

*BK0301083592 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in Thai 0530 GMT 3 Jan 92*

[Text] National Legislative Assembly [NLA] President Ukrit Mongkhonnawin commented this morning on a widely criticized issue concerning the person who would have the authority to countersign His Majesty the King's royal command appointing a prime minister four months from now.

The NLA president reaffirmed that there would be no problem at all on this issue. He said that Article 159 in the present Constitution states clearly that only the president of the House of Representatives is empowered to countersign H. M. the King's royal command appointing a prime minister. This is because, once the general election is held, the post of chairman of the National Peacekeeping Council [NPKC] will terminate, the NLA president elaborated.

## Purchase of Second F-16 Squadron Approved

*BK3012140791 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1230 GMT 30 Dec 91*

[Text] At a meeting today, the cabinet approved the Air Force's purchase of a squadron of F-16's. The cabinet also approved the signing of the purchase agreement today before the price increases. Prime Minister Anan Panyarachun said the purchase is part of the long-range plan of the Armed Forces structure program to enhance the Air Force's capability. He said the Air Force will pay for the purchase itself and that there is no foreign borrowing on the part of the government.

[Begin Anan recording in progress] ...within the budget allocated to each branch of the Armed Forces. The Air Force has planned to buy this second squadron ever since it bought the first one. It is part of the Air Force's modernization plan which relies on its own budget. There is no additional borrowing for the purchase. This complies with the government's policy that it is up to each branch of the Armed Forces to set its own priorities in the use of its budget and submit it for government approval. [end recording]

Meanwhile, Air Chief Marshal Suthep Theppharak, the Air Force chief of staff, informed newsmen that the purchase of one squadron of F-16 aircraft, or about 15 planes from the United States, will cost about $607 million and that delivery time is expected in 1994. Today is the last day for the purchase at the confirmed price, and the contract will be signed later today.

## Greed, 'Deterioration' of Moral Values Decried

*BK0101041492 Bangkok THE NATION in English 1 Jan 92 p A1*

[Commentary by Suthichai Yun: "92: Beyond Soul-Searching"]

[Text] This is a time for reflection, not breast-beating; a time for soul-searching perhaps, but certainly not fault-finding. But the inevitable question has to be posed: What have we learned from 1991 on the domestic front?

The answer, sad to say, could well be summarized in one word: greed.

Greed dominated almost every aspect of the country's political, economic and social life in 1991, which was marked by a frightening deterioration in the sense of fair play, moral values and respect for the rules of the game.

More appalling was the realization that, as the malaise spread on a national scale, most of us were far from disturbed. We either took part in the suicidal game or watched it being played out as uninterested bystanders.

We could almost find an excuse to soothe our conscience on any violation of those moral standards to which we all are supposed to aspire.

Somehow, as a nation, we have forgotten how to get angry when things go wrong—when people take things into their own hands and unacceptable values are rammed down our throats. Yet we took all these distortions quite lightly.

When opportunists thrive and dissidents offer no real alternatives, we should search very carefully for signs of impending catastrophe—because the political and economic criminals would stalk the country.

If the Feb 23 coup (where were the dissidents, intellectuals, politicians, democratic forces when we needed you?) plunged the country back into the dark age of arbitrary military intervention once again, the general election scheduled for March 22, offers no new hope that democracy will be given a real chance.

After all, the same old delusion continues to haunt us—form before substance. The military leaders proved they can continue to conveniently fool most of the people most of the time with their traditional pastime: staging a coup, seizing the power base, and wringing acceptance from the people by offering an election.

That circus called an "election" has begun in earnest yet again, courtesy of the military leaders who have yet to offer a plausible answer to the question of who gave them the right to put up the "democracy under repair" sign in the first place? How many times have we, as a people, been slapped in the face by the casual statement from the military brass: We will do it yet again if we feel like it.

There is no other valid interpretation except to conclude that silence suggests acquiescence.

But who cares? Political memory is short-lived and power, money and greed take the front seat yet again. Politicians are back with their noisy ritual, but don't be fooled by appearances. 1992 will not usher in a new era of democracy—not until the "little people" begin to play a significant role in the democratic process—and all signs point to the old faces from within the small circle of people with the right kind of connections, financial resources and campaign gimmicks, being elected to the House yet again.

Call it a national enigma, or shame, or paradox of Thai democracy. But why did it take a coup—and not the normal democratic process—to install a clean, efficient and reasonably courageous government like the outgoing Anan Panyarachun Cabinet to make necessary, even unpopular, changes vital to the country? Something must be seriously wrong somewhere if Thai democracy is equated with power brokering, horse-trading and the lack of political will and decisiveness to get things done.

Will 1992, then, bring hope of a more broad-based, responsive and effective political system which will in turn guide the country's economic policies to benefit the majority of the people, who will in turn participate more meaningfully in the ever-fragile and misguided process of democracy in this country?

The indications are, regrettably, far from encouraging. But it could be a new beginning—whereby the hope is not to be pinned only on politicians or the election process. A critical mass will have to be created by citizens groups, pushing for wider participation by ordinary people in the political process, making it clear once and for all to both the military establishment and the political parties that the Thai people will no longer sit idly by the next time those in power seek to rape the nation of its conscience and its rights, as well as freedom, not only of expression, but also from fear, poverty, and repression.

Our social values have been undermined. Our sense of purpose has been lost, drowned in the sea of power-seeking, materialism and, yes, greed, and numbed by superficiality and mediocrity in business boardrooms, military barracks, monasteries and, especially, the classrooms.

Take your child aside one of these days and ask him or her: Is there anything worth dying for in today's Thai society? The answer may be a bigger shock than we had all dared to imagine.

## Vietnam

### Effects of Major 1991 Events on Country Viewed

*BK0201034692 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English 1000 GMT 1 Jan 92*

[Review of Events of 1991]

[Text] The new year has arrived, putting an end to the year 1991, which has been full of changes, challenges, and opportunities for Vietnam.

The political upheavals and their after-effects in Eastern Europe, and particularly in the former Soviet Union, have deprived Vietnam of her traditional support and created new difficulties and obstacles to finding a way out of the current socioeconomic crisis. What is more, several floods caused extensive damage to both ends of the country as well as much loss of life, thus compounding Vietnam's economic problems.

The international situation has been aggravated by pressure from many sides, including the U.S., which has continued with its trade sanctions against Vietnam. As for the Vietnamese people, they have continued to face material difficulties and wonder whether Vietnam can stand firm in face of all these difficulties. However, the progress toward renovation has continued to bring about tangible results.

Vietnamese agriculture has been able to feed Vietnam's population; 1991 has been the first year Vietnam has been a rice exporter. This indicates the country's ability to achieve its food targets in the next 5 years. Some branches of industry are now considered strong points of the country's economy. These are energy, oil and gas, and cement, which have consistently obtained high output. Also encouraging is the fact that Vietnam's export structure has changed with oil and gas, food, and seafood ranking first in the list of export lines.

The 3 year-old new investment code has succeeded in drawing in $2.5 billion, a modest but significant figure. The multi-sector economy has been developing very well in the spirit of a common saying, that is, when the people are rich the country is prosperous.

Vietnam's international relations have been improving. A number of affluent countries have decided to resume aid to Vietnam despite the U.S. trade sanctions. What Vietnam has obtained from doi moi, or renovation, in the past year are the results of the interaction between domestic and international developments—compassion on the part of the international community and the judicious policy of the party and state to conform with international law and practice. The doi moi policy stands from the sixth party congress. It has been expounded in the government's foreign policy which stresses that Vietnam wants to befriend all countries in the international community, striving for peace, independence and development. This (?trend) has been confirmed by life and turned into life, enabling Vietnam to stand on its own.

The results of doi moi over the past years have shown the initial steps Vietnam has taken on the long road to a brighter future. Difficulties are many. However, Vietnam has chosen the proper route and is now strong with resolve as well as with valuable experience it has gained from the domestic and international situation. Vietnam is moving ahead with persistent efforts to obtain its economic objectives in order to make the country prosperous in the near future.

### Army Daily Urges Contribution to Constitution

*BK0201144592 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1400 GMT 31 Dec 91*

[Editorial carried in QUAN DOI NHAN DAN entitled "The Whole Army Actively Contributes Its Thinking to the Construction of the Constitution and the Accomplishing of Citizen's Rights and Its Right of Mastery over the Country"—date of issue not given]

[Text] The Constitution is the fundamental law of our state and the regulator of major lines and orientations of the Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV]. The 1980 Constitution, which was formulated in the spirit of the CPV Fourth National Congress resolution, has greatly contributed to making our nation produce achievements in undertaking socialism construction and national protection.

In the past, we have gradually renewed the political system, meeting the requirements of socioeconomic renovation under the lines of the CPV Sixth National Congress. The 1980 Constitution was amended with some articles, but the current situation demands and allows the renovation of the political system in a more fundamental and systematic way, making the progress of renovation more profound, synchronized, and complete.

Therefore, the amendment of the 1980 Constitution is suited to the domestic and international situation, meeting the requirements of our renovation; it is also a very important task which was outlined in the CPV Seventh National Congress.

After having been rewritten many times and after opinions from people of all walks of life were obtained, the amended Constitution draft was announced, with many new features compared with the 1980 Constitution. However, the substance of all the chapters and articles is to affirm the target and the path of socialism and to confirm that our government is the state of the people, by the people, and for the people, and it is based on the alliance of worker, peasant classes and the intellectuals under the CPV leadership. The principle of democratic centralism is thoroughly understood in the organizational structure and activities of the government from central to grassroots levels. The government is united in power but clearly delineating the legislative, administrative, and judiciary powers. The basic rights and obligations of citizens are clearly defined. The draft also affirms the Vietnam Fatherland Front and mass organizations as the firm political base of the government and it reaffirms the role of the CPV leadership over the government and our society.

Regarding the obligation of protecting the socialist fatherland, the draft makes some noteworthy points by saying that the SRV people's armed force is absolutely loyal to the homeland and people and is responsible for the protection of the socialist regime and for the construction of the all-people national defense. The revolutionary people's army is an able, regular, and modern armed force and is helping to build a strong reserved army and militia forces. The armed force combines its national defense duty with its economic construction duty and looks after the material and spiritual life of its cadres and soldiers.

At its second plenum, the CPV Seventh Central Committee requested and believed that, together with the entire party and people, the cadres and soldiers of the armed force would show their traditional love of the country, socialism, and the right of mastery over the country to actively take part in discussions and contribute their thinking to the construction of the amended constitution.

Contributing their views in the construction of the third draft of the amended 1980 Constitution is a widespread and important political activity that will develop the right of mastery and the sense of responsibility of the public in the undertaking of socialist construction and protection.

Therefore, all organs and units of the armed force need to clearly work out their responsibility of giving efficient leadership in a truely democratic way. Having efficiently carried out their combat duties and production in 1991, in their planning for 1992 they should make the contribution of views to the amended Constitution an urgent task. They need to make cadres and soldiers understand the sources of, and fundamental concepts employed in, the amended Constitution; the main changes between the amended and the 1980 Constitution; and the options which may be chosen in the chapters on the structure of the state mechanism from central to local level and on the basic rights and obligations of citizens in the construction and protection of the fatherland.

At the same time, they should have detailed plans that suit their own situation in order to organize sessions for the contribution of views for cadres and soldiers so that the sessions produce outstanding, practical results. The important thing is to actively fight against the attitude of organizing just out of mere formality and pretensions, considering the issue too big and not of anybody's concern, and not closely following the requirements and contents of the discussion; this will lead to the contribution of only rough and general ideas. They should also positively take part in fighting—in the society where their troops are deployed—negative phenomena by people who take advantage of the democracy and renovation process to spread extremist concepts that contradict those of the party, state, as well as the people's aspiration.

Additionally, through the contribution of views to the draft amended 1980 Constitution, the military organs and units should increase the knowledge of soldiers concerning the law and our party's fundamental legal concepts; they should also improve their knowledge of the rights and obligations of citizens in every organization under the Constitution and the law.

Our cadres and soldiers are both members of the armed forces and also citizens. Therefore, they need to heighten their sense of responsibility, actively take part in the discussion, and contribute many practical ideas. They also need to motivate the people to contribute their thinking to the construction of the Constitution and the successful implementation of the renovation process in the political system in conformity with the thorough and complete renovation requirements which were outlined by the party and state.

## News Conference on Draft Amendment

*BK0301062292 Hanoi Vietnam Television Network in Vietnamese 1200 GMT 30 Dec 92*

[Text] On 30 December, the National Assembly and the Council of State, held a joint press conference to announce the draft amendments to the 1980 Constitution.

Attending were large numbers of reporters of Hanoi-based foreign news agencies and media, press secretaries of various embassies and international organizations in Hanoi, and representatives of some foreign corporations currently in Hanoi.

Comrade Nguyen Huy Thuc, legal advisor of the National Assembly, presented the reasons for and fundamental viewpoints in amending the 1980 Constitution. After introducing the draft amendments to the 1980 Constitution, Comrade Vu Mao, head of the National Assembly and the Council of State, and Comrade Nguyen Huy Thuc, answered questions from journalists.

## Continuing Reportage on Eighth National Assembly

### 25 Dec Morning Meeting Detailed

*BK0301040592 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 25 Dec 92*

[Report by station correspondent Truong Cong Hoa on the 25 December morning meeting of the Eighth National Assembly's Tenth Session—portion recorded]

[Summary] This morning the Eighth National Assembly's Tenth Session continued its 13th meeting in the Conference Hall under the direction of its Chairman Le Quang Dao to hear 14 deputies' statements summarizing the activities of the session and unanimously agreeing with Le Quang Dao's report on the progressive operations of the National Assembly through its 10 sessions.

"Many deputies specified that the legislative operations have positively contributed to institutionalizing the renovation viewpoints of the party and state and that the National Asembly should help accelerate the process of completing a new management mechanism in order to create the environment and impetus for us to extricate our country from dire straits and raise the development standard."

Besides properly assessing the achievements, the deputies also sternly criticized the failures, "especially in their relations with voters to inform voters of the National Assembly's activities and in their supervisory duties to control implementation of the National Assembly resolutions by the administration at all levels."

Deputy Phan Quang of Thai Binh Province stressed:

[Begin Phan Quang recording] "I would like to add something about the National Assembly's activities to inform the people of its operations and to reflect the work of its sessions through the press. I think the people have watched and recognized the renovation work of our National Assembly. This manifests the political maturity of our people and shows that our National Assembly has truly and gradually renovated its work, thanks partly to the press." The press with its high sense of responsibility has strived to report all the activities of the National Assembly. I want to emphasize that if we have better conditions to report even more adequately the activities of the National Assembly, our sense of responsibility to the people will be raised even higher. I propose that the system of information be improved in the next session in order to inform the people more adequately and accurately. [end recording]

### 24 Dec Session Highlighted

*BK0301095592*

[Editorial Report] Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese at 2300 GMT on 24 December 1991 carries a 10-minute report on the 24 December afternoon session of the National Assembly.

The report says that the National Assembly discussed "the redemarcation of the administrative boundaries of certain provinces and a report that assesses the performance of the Eighth National Assembly."

On the redemarcation of the administrative boundaries of the four Provinces of Ha Nam Ninh, Thuan Hai, Hau Giang, and Cuu Long, the report quotes Deputy Le Quoc Khanh of Vinh Phu Province as saying that "as we have decided to redivide four provinces, we should restore the former boundaries of all those provinces, especially those in the north, which we have divided so far."

Afterward, the National Assembly passed a resolution redemarcating the administrative boundaries of the four provinces as follows: "Ha Nam Ninh Province is to be divided into two provinces called Ha Nam and Ninh Binh Provinces. Thuan Hai Province is to be divided into two provinces called Ninh Thuan and Binh Thuan Provinces. Hau Giang Province is to be divided into two provinces called Can Tho and Soc Trang Provinces. Cuu Long Province is to be divided into two provinces called Vinh Long and Tra Vinh."

Also connected with this issue, "some deputies raised the question of whether or not the National Assembly should consider redividing Vinh Phu, Ha Bac, Ha Tay, and Ha Nam Provinces, and a number of provinces in the central highlands to restore their former boundaries as they were under French rule." The report says that "as this is a complex issue, the National Assembly finally decided to leave this issue for the Ministry of Interior to examine and study before presenting the results to the National Assembly for consideration in its forthcoming session."

It is reported that the National Assembly deputies spent "a great deal of time" discussing a report that assesses the performance of the Eighth National Assembly. "The deputies concentrated on reviewing the activities of certain sectors such as the Supreme People's Court, the Supreme People's Organ of Control, and the Council of Ministers and then evaluated what has been done by the Eighth National Assembly and what has not." In this regard, all the deputies unanimously agreed with those reports of the Council of Ministers and of the National Assembly on the term of office of this Eighth National Assembly, saying: "Activities of the National Assembly have been carried out in a more democratic atmosphere" and the National Assembly "has set the course for the activities of various sectors, including the Council of Ministers and the Council of States, so they can firmly pursue the socialist path."

The report says that in their debates, deputies also pointed out some residual shortcomings which were still unable to be overcome during the term of office of the Eighth National Assembly. For example: "Inflation has been allowed to drag on. Drastic steps have yet to be taken in the fight against corruption and smuggling. Various sectors such as the Supreme People's Court, the Supreme People's Organ of Control, and the financial and banking sectors have failed to overcome their shortcomings and weaknesses."

In assessing the term of office of the Eighth National Assembly, the report cites Deputy Truong Dinh Co of Binh Dinh Province as hailing the National Assembly for having persistently pursued the socialist path and the renovation policy as outlined in the resolutions of the sixth and seventh party congresses. This, according to him, "has helped stabilize the country economically and politically."

The report further points out that "in the national construction and defense task, we have attached much importance to economic development while paying less attention to consoldiating national defense forces. On the welfare issue, nothing has been done so far despite the fact that there has been a resolution fixing the minimum monthly wage at an equivalent of 45 kilos of rice per person and calling for improvement of the wage system."

Hanoi Vietnam Television Network in Vietnamese at 1200 GMT on 24 December 1991 also broadcasts a 10-minute report on the 24 December afternoon National Assembly session which was basically the same as what was reported above by Radio Hanoi.

This television version of the report also recalls a Council of Ministers report which, delivered by its Vice Chairman Phan Van Khai at the 21 December National Assembly session, reviews the activities of the Council of Ministers during the term of office of the Eighth National Assembly. It says: "In this report, the Council of Ministers reviewed its management work and its guidance for work implementation in accordance with its functions, duties, and authority as defined by law. It also dealt with strong points, shortcomings, and the reasons for this, and drew on lessons of experience aimed at supplementing and perfecting the task of administrating the state in accordance with the spirit of the resolutions of the sixth and seventh party congresses."

### Corruption, Smuggling Debate Noted

*BK0301072392 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1000 GMT 17 Dec 92*

[From the press review]

[Text] NHAN DAN today frontpages a report on the group debate by National Assembly deputies on the socioeconomic situation and the enforcement of law to fight corruption and smuggling. The deputies' views focused on analyzing the real status of law enforcement, clarifying the reason for poor results in the anticorruption and anti-smuggling struggle and presenting major measures to accelerate this task.

Large numbers of the deputies unanimously agreed with the points in the report on the future guidelines and tasks in these domains, and these tasks include consolidating and intensifying the operations and adequately manifesting the power of law enforcement agencies such as the inspection, police, control, tribunal, and justice functions in order to manifest the strictness and fairness of laws, firmly preserve the people's confidence in law enforcement agencies, and assure by all means order and discipline according to the new mechanism.

### Hanoi Scientists Meet Deputies

*BK0301045592 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 15 Dec 92*

[Text] On 15 December the Hanoi Technology Association held a conference for scientists working in the capital to meet National Assembly deputies and leading cadres of nearly all mountainous provinces countrywide, and to exchange views on technological measures and projects for developing the mountainous regions and the areas of ethnic minority people.

Comrades Vu Oanh, Central Committee Political Bureau member; Dam Quang Trung, vice chairman of the Council of State and chairman of the National Assembly's Nationalities Committee; and representatives of the Council of Ministers' office, the Union of Vietnam Science Asociations, the Hanoi party committee and people's committee, and some research institutes and colleges in the capital attended the conference and gave their views.

The conferees unanimously agreed with the Party Central Committee Political Bureau's resolution on the position of the mountainous regions—a large area covering three fourths of our country's land, where nearly all the fraternal people of various nationalities are living and holding great latent potential and an important role in the socioeconomic domains, ecological environment, and national defense and security of the entire country.

The exploitation and development of the mountainous regions involves the interests and direct responsibility of not only ethnic minority people but also the people countrywide including the residents in the capital. The delegates of Hanoi intellectuals petitioned and presented technological measures applicable to the mountainous regions. They stressed their goals of increased state investment in raising the cultural, technological, and health standards for ethnic minority people, and of special investment in the intensive cultivation of crops on sloping land, in the fields of communications and transportation, and for gathering information on mountainous regions in order to combine socioeconomic development with protection of the environment. In these tasks, Hanoi intellectuals must perform a vanguard role.

### Justice Minister Gives Report 10 Dec

*BK0301093592 Hanoi Vietnam Television Network in Vietnamese 1200 GMT 15 Dec 92*

["Excerpts" from 10 December report by Justice Minister Phan Hien to the National Assembly on the situation of law enforcement and violation—recorded]

[Summary] It is important to establish laws, but it is even more important to enforce the law in life. "For this reason, in recent years our party and state have paid more attention to establishing laws and providing guidance for law enforcement. In order to intensify the effectiveness of the law, the Council of Ministers has conducted many inspections to control the enforcement of law by various state agencies, economic organizations and social organizations, and has achieved good results."

In 1991, financial inspections were completed in nine provinces and cities. They revealed that "51.948 billion dong were not registered in the state budget; and revenues and expenses not accounted for in the state budget amounted to 130.119 billion dong, or US $13,322,501."

Recently, the Finance Ministry coordinated with various sectors to inspect the implementation of Decision 268-CT countrywide. "Many state agencies, economic and social organizations were found not to have enforced laws on taxes and the registration of business. At present, only half of the 3,000 economic units established according to Decision 268 of the Council of Ministers chairman have been licensed and registered for tax payment."

Along with struggling against crimes and other infringements of the law, the Council of Ministers has reviewed previously promulgated laws in order to ensure the establishment of a proper legal system for implementation. "As of late June 1991, 4,734 legal documents have been revised and recommendations have been made to abrogate 1,526 documents and modify 807 others."

Through controlling and inspecting social life activities, it can be generally concluded that many legal documents have not been implemented either practically or with care, such as "the law on private business and corporation which came into effect on 15 April 1991, but by late November 1991 only the authorities of nine provinces and cities had issued business licenses to 38 enterprises, including 19 private enterprises, 17 limited corporations, and two shareholding companies involving a total investment of 19.3 billiong dong. All these 38 enterprises were newly established."

To sum up, many regulations on state management control over households, traffic safety and public order have not been carried out adequately. Therefore, quite a number of negative results have occurred, affecting social order, sanitation and safety in localities, especially major cities.

"Our laws lack effectiveness." In life, they have neither been observed nor backed up with scrupulous enforcement because of some deficiencies in the mechanism of formulating laws. "There have been too many general stipulations, which have led to casual enforcement in many domains, especially in the economic field." Lack of regular revision and clarification of legal documents is also a cause of a slack observation of the law. "Law reflects life, which evolves continuously. As a result, it is important to abrogate outdated legal documents. This task should be conducted regularly. However, in the past 10 years, we have failed to perform this task scrupulously."

### Deputy Foreign Minister on Southeast Asian Ties

*BK0301050692 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English 1000 GMT 2 Jan 92*

[Report on "Recent" interview with SRV Deputy Foreign Minister Vu Khoan "On Vietnam's relations with ASEAN Countries in 1991;" portion recorded in Vietnamese fading into English translation—place not given]

[Text] Last year, despite great changes in the Soviet Union, Eastern Europe and the Middle East, Southeast Asia experienced a period of detente and cooperation. The Paris agreement on Cambodia signed in October 1991 opened up a trend of cooperation and friendship between the two groups of countries of ASEAN and Indochina. Worthy of note is special developments in the relations between Vietnam and regional countries. The visits to Thailand, Indonesia and Singapore of Vietnamese Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet turned a new page in the relations between Vietnam and ASEAN countries.

Recently our radio correspondent had an interview with Deputy Foreign Minister Vu Khoan on Vietnam's relations with ASEAN countries in 1991. Mr Vu Khoan said:

[Begin Recording] Important events took place in 1991 conducive to new developments in the relations between Vietnam and Southeast Asian countries. The clearest manifestation was the visits to Indonesia, Thailand and Singapore of Vietnamese Chairman of the Council of Ministers Vo Van Kiet. This visit resulted in an end to mutual distrust and a new period of cooperation. A series of economic agreements was signed including those on investment insurance with Indonesia and Thailand, and agreement on navigation with Indonesia, and documents and agreements on oil and gas cooperation with Thailand. Besides, Vietnam had talks with parties concerned on new agreements and will sign supplement documents on the 1978 trade cooperation agreement, the agreements on aquatic products, tourism and agriculture with Thailand.

Indovina, a joint venture between Vietnam and Indonesia in the field of banking has been operational in Vietnam. Vietnam and Singapore have also joint ventures in shrimp breeding for export and garment making. Vietnam also entered into joint ventures with Malaysia in oil and gas prospecting and airlines.

Cooperation development in 1991 created an impetus for 1992 and the following years. High level contacts will be made between Vietnam and Thailand. Malaysia, the Philippines and Brunei extended their invitation to Vietnamese Chairman Vo Van Kiet to visit their countries. The Vietnamese Government attaches importance to cultural relations with these countries as there are similarities between Vietnam's and Southeast Asian countries' cultures. Vietnam is eager to learn from previous experiences of Southeast Asian countries.

Another expected important event in 1992 is the multilateral cooperation between Vietnam and the ASEAN. ASEAN will hold its summit meeting this month and will discuss Vietnam's participation in the Bali Treaty and the ASEAN. [end recording]

### Industrial Export Value Said up 22 Percent

*BK0201065992 Hanoi VNA in English 0630 GMT 2 Jan 92*

[Text] Hanoi VNA Jan 2—Enterprises run by the Ministry of Heavy Industry grossed $32.2 million for their exports last year overfulfilling their plans 3 percent and topping the figure of 1990 with 22 percent. The success made it possible for the ministry to produce half of the hard currency needed to import raw materials for fertilizer and insecticide production and new equipment and technology for high-quality products. Vietnam's industrial products were exported mainly to the former Soviet Union and other member countries in the former Council for Mutual Economic Assistance. Now they have been sold in other markets—rolled steel, pig iron and carbide in Thailand, Japan, South Korea and Singapore, rubber goods to European countries, and high-grade electronic goods to other countries.

### Legal, Illegal Trade With PRC 'Fluorishing'

*BK0301024992 Bangkok THE NATION in English 3 Jan 92 p A3*

[Text] Hanoi—Thang decided to quite his job as a driver two months ago to cash in on a recent fad—Chinese goods.

Thang, 35, opened a small stall in Hanoi's Hang Khoai Street selling Chinese-made products, from pencils to mechanic tools, and tea cups to bicycles.

"Chinese products are popular," he said, pointing to a dozen Pairs of jeans made in Nanking with brand names like "Apollo" or "Boogie."

His shop is small compared with hundreds of others along the narrow strip of road. These shops are packed with a wide variety of imported goods from southern China, mainly from Guangxi and Guangdong provinces.

According to Thang, Chinese made "3 Bs" are the most popular. They stand for beer, bicycles and bowls.

The Nanking "Wan-li" beer has long been a household name throughout Vietnam, especially in the North. In the past, the beer was smuggled through the mine-strewn border. However, with the Sino-Vietnamese normalization recently, cross border trade started flourishing.

Chinese-made "Phoenix" brand bicycles have overtaken the local-made machines, even though these are cheaper and can be delivered quickly.

Vietnamese housewives prefer Chinese porcelain, which is more beautiful and durable.

An official statistic put the cross-border trade between two countries in 1991 at little above US$300 million. According to diplomats and businessmen based here, the two-way trade volume could reach as high as US$500 million.

A lot of business transactions are illegal and unaccounted for. And given the 1,000-kilometre-long common border, it is hard for authorities of both countries to monitor the border trade.

The construction of the new railway line linking Vietnam's Haiphong to China's Nanking would further facilitate cross border trade between the two nations. At the same time, it could also incrase smuggled Chinese gooods into Vietnam.

According to QUAN HE QUOC TE, a monthly magzine, most of the Sino-Vietnamese trade is conducted illegally. "Due to the unofficial economic relationship, most of the bilateral trade is spontaneous and done in an unorganized manner which results in confusion," the magzine said.

Smuggled goods such as electronic appliances and utensils are brought via Lao Cai and Lang Son from Guangxi. Within days, the goods are distributed throughout the Northern provinces and a few days later in the south of Vietnam.

A government official, who monitors Vietnam's trade relations with China, complained that China is already enjoying a trade surplus with Vietnam because it imports inexpensive industrial raw materials from Vietnam such as rubber, minerals, marine products and forest products as well as herbs. "After that, the Chinese re-export the finished products to us," he said.

### Envoy on De Michelis Visit, Economic Obstacles

*BK0301073592 Hanoi VNA in English 0631 GMT 3 Jan 92*

[Text] Hanoi VNA Jan. 3—In anticipation of the forthcoming visit of Italy's foreign minister, Mr. G. de Michelis, Italian Ambassador Maurizio Teucei has given an interview to the English-language paper VIETNAM NEWS about the relations between the two countries and about Vietnam's possibilities. Following are excerpts from the interview:

Foreign Minister de Michelis will be here on January 5-6. The visit is to assess Italy's technical assistance to Vietnam. We adopted a cooperation agreement in May last year signed on former Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach's visit to Rome. The agreement covers a three-year period, 1990, 1991, and 1992. The total amount of technical aid is some 140 million US dollars. The two parties have chosen some 15 pojects in strategical areas: telecommunication, social welfare, agriculture, fishery, medicine, and so on. Now is the moment to assess the development of this technical aid. In [words indistinct] will begin to negotiate with the Vietnamese Government a second three-year cooperation agreement.

So far, four projects have already begun. The first is a sericulture project which is very important. It is in Darlac, northeast of Ho Chi Minh City. The second project is in fisheries in Haiphong and Halong Bay. The third is a water supply system in Ho Chi Minh City. The fourth is in telecommunication—an optical fiber link tetween Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City." [no begin quote marks as received]

"The potential of Vietnam's economy is very strong, and [words indistinct] any possibilities in Vietnam. Still, I must mention some problems. The channel as represented by the cooperation and technical [word indistinct] between the two governments [words indistinct] very well. Now we should activate the channel as represented by exchanges between private businesses in the two countries.

"Vietnam has many beautiful places, but you need to give tourists the possibility of travelling freely in the country. If you need a police permit to go from one place to another, you put a curb on tourism. The same is true for foreign businesspeople. You need to try to cut bureaucratic approaches as much as possible when foreigners come here for investment; they want to have the possibility to see without restriction. Actually, something has been done in this regard. Until a few months ago Italian businessmen had to wait for 3 days to get a visa. Now they can get their visas. But now they can be had within one week so procedures have been cut and that's good."

"Vietnam, after reunification, staked on huge, state-owned companies. Here I should say that small and medium-sized industries can better adjust themselves to changes in the market, to demands in the market. They can work very well on the international market, top. [as received] Big state-owned complexes, in our experience, cannot respond to economic needs."

### Tracing Network To Search for Missing Persons

*BK2512073491 Hanoi VNA in English 0629 GMT 25 Dec 91*

[Text] Hanoi VNA Dec. 25—A course on tracing has been held here by the Red Cross of Vietnam (RCV) with financial assistance from the Central Tracing Agency [CTA] under the International Committee of the Red Cross.

Present at the course were Ms. Anne Mary Testut, CTA representative, and representatives of the Foreign Ministry, the Ministry of the Interior, the Ministry of National Defence, and the External Relations Commission of the Vietnam Communist Party Central Committee.

Vietnam has undergone more than 30 years of war, a great number people have been reported missing for various reasons. The tracing of missing people for family reunion is now an urgent demand. With humanitarian assistance from international organizations, the Red Cross of Vietnam in coordination with government offices concerned has set up a tracing network, and achieved initial results.

## Australia

### President Bush Meets With Business Leaders

*BK0301034492 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0300 GMT 3 Jan 92*

[Text] American President George Bush has met with business leaders in Melbourne—the last stop on his 3-day tour of Australia. Immediately prior to his arrival at the city's World Congress Center, police confronted about 500 demonstrators who had gathered in support of a wide range of causes. A number of arrests were made after demonstrators tried to break through a security cordon.

Inside the Congress Center, Mr. Bush gave an undertaking to resist all pressure to raise tariffs on American industry despite it being an election year. Laura Kerry reports:

[Begin recording] [Kerry] The president told about 50 Australian business leaders he remains committed to free trade. He said he was concerned at Australian press reports criticizing U.S. attitude to protecting its local markets at the expense of Australian farmers, but Mr. Bush said he has no intention of seeing the world divided into trading blocs, saying he will not see a revival of the tariff days of the 30's which led to a depression.

He also reassured Australians they would continue to be protected in a security partnership with the U.S. Mr. Bush said Australia had stood by the United States joining the sacrifice of lives for security and this has been appreciated. [end recording]

Later today Mr. Bush will fly from Melbourne to Singapore.

### Ban on Foreign Ownership of Resorts Lifted

*BK0301042692 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0300 GMT 3 Jan 92*

[Text] The Australian Government has decided to lift all restrictions on foreign ownership of major tourist resorts that include residential development.

The move will allow foreigners to buy or sell properties in projects designated as integrated tourist resorts without gaining approval from the Foreign Investement Review Board. Previously, foreign ownership was restricted to 50 percent.

Business correspondent, Wong Puan Wah, says five major resorts worth more than Australian $3 billion have been designated as integrated tourist resorts and more are expected to follow later this year.

Australian developers are reported to have welcomed the move. They plan to market the resorts to Asian investors, particularly in Japan, Hong Kong, and Singapore.

### Russian Planes Conclude Goodwill Mission

*BK0301042492 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0300 GMT 3 Jan 92*

[Text] A group of eight single-engine Russian aircraft is leaving Australia after a goodwill mission across the country. Peter Hughes reports from the northern city of Darwin.

[Begin Hughes recording] The eight flew into Darwin a fortnight ago on a goodwill mission with the support of Russian President Boris Yeltsin. In that time they have flown across Central Australia, to Adelaide, Melbourne, and off the east coast.

They have taken down the Soviet flag at consulates and raised the new Russian standard and now back to Moscow they carry to Mr. Yeltsin an invitation to visit Australia from Prime Minister Paul Keating. Today they hope to fly via Port Keates and Kalumburu in Western Australia to Kupang. [end recording]